



PUBLIC OPINION OF FORESTRY 2003: ENGLAND

**Results of the 2003 Public Opinion of Forestry survey
in England, carried out on behalf of the Forestry
Commission.**

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Executive Summary

Changes to the 2003 survey

The Forestry Commission has conducted similar biennial surveys of public attitudes to forestry and forestry-related issues since 1995. In the initial surveys a representative sample of 2,000 adults across Great Britain was surveyed. In 2003 the scope of the survey has been substantially increased with the use of three separate surveys:

- A representative sample of 4,120 adults across the UK
- A representative sample of 1,000 adults across Scotland
- A representative sample of 1,000 adults across Wales

This report summarises the results of respondents living in England from the main UK survey. It also highlights any differences in opinion amongst adults in England by geographic regions and socio-demographic variables (e.g. gender and age).

UK forests, woodlands and trees in the media

48% of adults have seen or read about forests, woodlands or trees on the television, radio or in the newspapers in the last 12 months.

38% were aware of at least one promotion related to woodlands and trees – the one with highest levels of awareness were National Tree Week, Heritage Trees and Walk in the Woods.

UK forest management

91% agreed with at least one reason for supporting forestry with public money: the top reasons were providing places for wildlife to live, providing places to visit and walk, helping to prevent the 'greenhouse effect' and global warming, and improving the countryside landscape. The top two reasons were also the aspects for which UK forestry performance was rated most highly.

Changes to woodland

Despite the increases in woodland area in recent decades, only 16% had perceived an increase, with the majority (61%) perceiving a decrease.

Two-thirds (67%) of respondents would like more woodland in their part of the country.

Awareness of certified symbols on wood products

Of those who had been shopping for wood products in the last few years, 31% recognised the FSC certification symbol, which indicates the wood came from a sustainably managed source.

Consultation

6% of respondents have been consulted about plans for creating, managing or using woodlands; 42% would like to be consulted in future.

Woodland recreation

Two-thirds (66%) of adults had visited a woodland for walks, picnics or other recreation in the last few years. 40% can get to a woodland easily without using a car or other transport.

Peace and quiet, wildlife, and attractive scenery were the most important factors when choosing to visit woodland, each identified by over 60%.

1. Introduction

Background

Forestry is now a devolved issue; England¹, Scotland², and Wales³ each have their own government strategy for Forestry. Each country's strategy has a different focus and therefore there is a requirement for information tailored to each country's needs in addition to the continuing requirement for UK-wide information.

The Forestry Commission has conducted similar biennial surveys of public attitudes to forestry and forestry-related issues since 1995. In the initial surveys, a representative sample of 2,000 adults across Great Britain (GB) was surveyed. In 2001, with interest in country-level results (England, Scotland and Wales) within GB, a restricted set of questions were asked of a representative sample of 1,000 adults across Scotland and 1,000 adults across Wales, to gather information on some important issues.

In order to balance the increased interest in country-level and regional information with the requirement for continued high-quality coherent information for the UK as a whole, the scope of the survey has been substantially increased in 2003 with the use of 3 separate surveys.

- A representative sample of 4,120 adults across the UK
- A representative sample of 1,000 adults across Scotland
- A representative sample of 1,000 adults across Wales

A 'core' set of questions was asked in all 3 surveys, other questions were survey-specific.

This report

This report gives results of the respondents from the UK survey based in England. It also highlights any differences in opinion amongst adults in England by geographic region (government office regions) and socio-demographic variables (e.g. gender and age). We also refer to 'social class' in socio-demographic comparisons. The population is divided into 2 groups: ABC1, where the chief income earner in the household is a non-manual worker and C2DE, where the chief income earner in the household is a manual worker or is not employed. Further details of these and other breakdowns are given in Appendix 1.

Separate reports are available for the UK (summary), and more detailed reports for Scotland and Wales.

¹ England forestry strategy – A new focus for England's woodlands, Forestry Commission, Cambridge, 1999

² Forests for Scotland – The Scottish forestry strategy, Forestry Commission, Edinburgh, 2000

³ Woodlands for Wales – The National Assembly for Wales strategy for trees and woodlands, Forestry Commission, Aberystwyth, 2001

Survey design

The England information presented in this report is taken from the RSGB General Omnibus survey carried out from 26th February – 9th March 2003 by Taylor Nelson Sofres on behalf of the Forestry Commission. The survey was based on a representative sample of 4,120 adults (aged 16 or over) across the UK (3,412 of which were from England). They were selected from a minimum of 270 sampling points across the UK by a random location method. More details of the sample method are given in Appendix 2.

All results are subject to the effects of chance in sampling, so a range of uncertainty (confidence interval) should be associated with any result from the survey. The confidence intervals take into account the effect of clustering, weighting and stratification in the survey design (see Appendix 2).

- For questions asked to the whole sample of 3,412 in England, the range of uncertainty around any figure should be no more than +/-2.5%.
- For responses of subgroups such as regions, the range of uncertainty is higher (e.g. for the North East (198 respondents) the range of uncertainty is no more than +/- 10.4%. However for the South East (607 respondents) the range of uncertainty is no more than +/- 6.0%).

Results are shown as percentages. These have been individually rounded so may not always total to exactly 100.

We have also used a multivariate regression model to look at the relationship between responses and socio-demographic information (e.g. gender and age) or geographic region. The model identifies variables that are statistically significant (i.e. they result in more than chance variation). Further details of the variables used in the regression modelling are given in Appendix 1.

Other similar studies

Defra commissioned a survey of public attitudes to quality of life and the environment¹ in 2001. This study asked questions of a representative sample of 3,700 respondents across England. Results from these two studies complement each other.

¹ Survey of public attitudes to quality of life and the environment - 2001, Defra, London, 2002. Available from: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/pubatt>

2. Forests, woodlands and trees in the media

2.1 Forests, woodlands and trees in the media

Respondents were asked whether they had seen or read about UK forests, woods or trees on the television, radio or in the newspapers in the last twelve months. Almost half of adults in England (48%) had seen or read about at least one topic. English respondents had mostly heard about 'tree planting', 'birds and other animals in woodlands' and 'protests about roads or other developments on woodland' (Table 1).

Table 1: Whether respondent has seen or read about UK forests, woods or trees in the last 12 months, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|---|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Tree planting | 23 | 16 | 17 | 23 | 26 | 23 | 18 | 30 | 26 | 23 |
| Birds and other animals in woodland | 22 | 16 | 16 | 21 | 24 | 21 | 15 | 31 | 34 | 22 |
| Protests about roads/developments in woodland | 21 | 14 | 9 | 19 | 27 | 19 | 17 | 29 | 29 | 21 |
| Public rights of access to woodlands | 17 | 14 | 14 | 15 | 22 | 17 | 15 | 27 | 30 | 19 |
| Forests and woodlands as places to visit | 19 | 15 | 12 | 19 | 20 | 17 | 12 | 25 | 31 | 19 |
| Flowers and other plants in woodlands | 14 | 11 | 10 | 16 | 18 | 13 | 11 | 20 | 25 | 15 |
| Loss of ancient or native woodland | 14 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 18 | 14 | 11 | 21 | 22 | 15 |
| Restoration of ancient or native woodland | 11 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 12 | 10 | 17 | 17 | 12 |
| Creation of new native woodlands | 12 | 8 | 6 | 13 | 17 | 9 | 9 | 14 | 18 | 12 |
| Community woodlands/ New local woodlands | 11 | 6 | 8 | 11 | 16 | 11 | 6 | 13 | 12 | 10 |
| Tree pests and diseases | 9 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 12 | 10 | 9 |
| Selling public woodlands | 5 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 9 |
| Wood for fuel (short rotation coppice) | 8 | 6 | 7 | 10 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 8 |
| Labelling / Certification of wood products | 8 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 10 | 8 | 7 |
| Timber transport | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 5 |
| At least one topic | 43 | 36 | 32 | 52 | 53 | 44 | 41 | 61 | 63 | 48 |

Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Regional comparisons

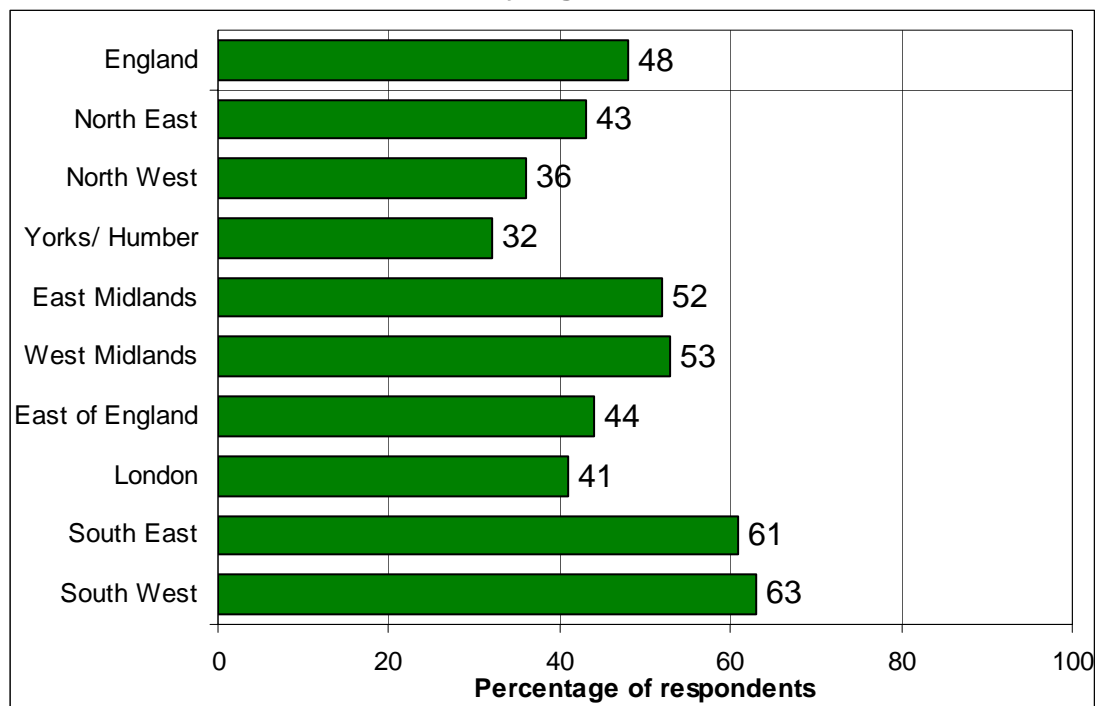
Respondents from the South West and South East were more likely than other regions to have recalled at least one topic (63% and 61% respectively). Those in Yorkshire and Humber and the North West were less likely (32% and 36% respectively, Figure 1).

As noted above, adults from the North West were less likely to have heard of at least one topic. In particular, they were less likely than those from other regions to have recalled birds and other animals in woodlands, flowers and other plants in woodlands, public rights of access to woodlands, protests about roads or other developments on woodlands, restoration of ancient or native woodlands and creation of new native woodlands.

Respondents from Yorkshire were also less likely than other regions to have recalled certain topics, in particular; birds and other animals in woodlands, protests about roads or other developments on woodlands, public rights of access to woodlands, forests and woodlands as places to visit, flowers and other plants in woodlands and creation of new native woodlands.

Adults in the West Midlands were more likely to have seen or read about community woodlands/ new local woodlands than those in other regions, whereas those in the South East were more likely to have recalled tree planting, loss of ancient or native woodland and timber transport than other regions.

Figure 1: Respondents who have seen or read about at least one topic, by region



Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Socio-demographic comparisons

Adults who were older, in social class ABC1, with a long-term illness or disability, who are employed or live in a rural area are more likely to have seen or read about at least one topic (Figure 2). This is also true of car-owners, those who are aware of the Forestry Commission and those who have visited woodland in the last few years.

Males were more likely than females to recall several of the topics, including tree planting (25% of males, 20% of females), creation of new native woodlands (14% of males, 10% of females) and wood for fuel / short rotation coppice (11% of males, 5% of females).

Older respondents were more likely to have recalled each of 8 of the 15 topics (e.g. 8% of 16-34 year-olds, 15% of 35-54 year olds and 21% of those aged 55+ had seen or read about flowers and other plants in woodlands).

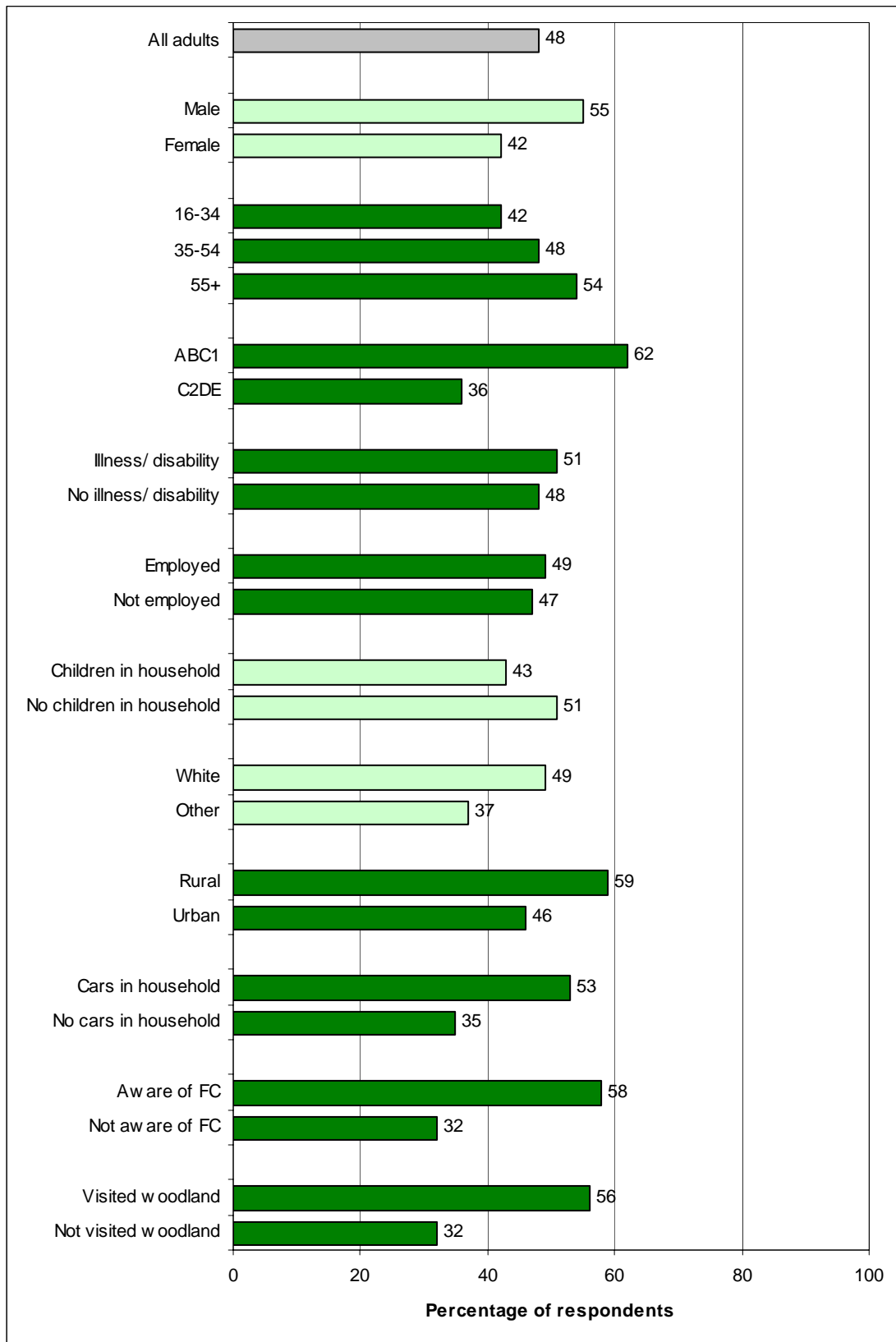
Adults in social class ABC1 were more likely than those in class C2DE to have seen or read about each of 13 of the 15 topics (e.g. 27% of ABC1s and 15% of C2DEs recalled protests about roads or other developments on woodlands).

Respondents with a long-term illness or disability were more likely to have seen or read about each of 7 of the 15 topics (e.g. 29% of those with a long-term illness or disability and 21% of those without, recalled birds and other animals in woodlands).

Respondents from rural locations were more likely than those from urban locations to have seen or read about each of 9 of the 15 topics (e.g. 21% of those in urban areas and 33% of those in rural areas had seen or read about birds or other animals in woodlands).

Adults who had visited woodland or were aware of the FC were more likely to have recalled all of the 15 topics (e.g. 26% of those who had visited woodland and 11% of those who had not visited woodland recalled protests about roads or other developments; 23% of those who were aware of the FC and 4% of those who were not, recalled loss of ancient or native woodland).

Figure 2: Respondents who have seen or read about at least one topic, by socio-demographic variables



Base: Adults in England (3,412)

NOTE: Dark green indicates statistically significant variable in multivariate model, light green others

2.2 Promotions of forests, woodlands, trees and wood products

A number of promotions in England and throughout the UK are aimed at enhancing public understanding and awareness of woodlands, wood products and related issues. A further media-related question asked respondents about their awareness of five such promotions. Although 62% of respondents had not heard of any of the promotions listed, Table 2 shows that a quarter of adults in England had heard of 'National Tree Week, 12% had heard of Heritage Trees, and 11% Walk in the Woods. Autumn Colours and Wood for Good were less well known.

Table 2: Proportion of adults who have heard of promotions, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|--|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| National Tree Week | 26 | 23 | 17 | 25 | 34 | 24 | 17 | 33 | 28 | 25 |
| Heritage Trees | 13 | 10 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 11 | 15 | 12 | 12 |
| Walk in the Woods | 14 | 7 | 5 | 14 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 13 | 14 | 11 |
| Autumn Colours | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 4 |
| Wood for Good or other promotions for timber uses and products | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| At least one promotion | 39 | 32 | 27 | 39 | 42 | 37 | 31 | 45 | 41 | 38 |

Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Regional comparisons

Adults in the South East were more likely than those from other regions to have heard of at least one of the promotions, those from Yorkshire and Humberside and the North West the least likely.

National Tree Week was recalled by a greater proportion of adults in the South East and West Midlands than those in other regions and by fewer adults in Yorkshire and Humber and London.

Adults from Yorkshire and Humber were less likely than other regions to recall Heritage Trees, and those from Yorkshire and Humber and the North West were less likely than other regions to recall Walk in the Woods.

Socio-demographic comparisons

Adults who are older (33% of 16-34 year olds, 39% of 35-54 year olds and 40% of those aged 55+), who have visited woodland (43% visited, 26% not visited), or who are aware of the Forestry Commission (44% aware of FC, 27% not aware of FC) were more likely to have heard of at least one of the promotions.

National Tree Week was more likely to be recognised by adults aged 35 or over (17% of 16-34 year olds and 29% of those aged 35+) in social class ABC1 (31% of ABC1s and 21% of C2DEs), who have visited woodland (31% visited, 15% not visited) or are aware of the Forestry Commission (34% aware of FC, 13% not aware of FC).

3. English forest management

3.1 Benefits of forestry

The UK government supports forestry in many ways. Respondents were asked to select (from a list of possible public benefits) good reasons to support UK forestry with public money. 91% of respondents in England selected at least one benefit.

The top four good reasons to support forestry with public money were to provide places for wildlife to live, to provide places to visit and walk in, to help prevent the greenhouse effect and global warming and to improve the countryside landscape (Table 3).

Table 3: Whether respondent believes public benefits are good reasons to support UK forestry with public money, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|---|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| To provide places for wildlife to live | 79 | 69 | 70 | 71 | 70 | 76 | 50 | 79 | 86 | 71 |
| To provide places to visit and walk in | 74 | 61 | 61 | 64 | 61 | 61 | 37 | 69 | 76 | 61 |
| To help prevent the greenhouse effect and global warming | 66 | 59 | 58 | 55 | 62 | 49 | 41 | 66 | 68 | 58 |
| To improve the countryside landscape | 62 | 57 | 56 | 50 | 61 | 61 | 37 | 61 | 78 | 57 |
| To support the economy in rural areas | 50 | 47 | 39 | 37 | 48 | 42 | 31 | 54 | 65 | 46 |
| To help rural tourism | 47 | 41 | 38 | 41 | 46 | 40 | 28 | 46 | 56 | 42 |
| To make woods more accessible to all in the community | 48 | 46 | 40 | 38 | 42 | 38 | 25 | 45 | 49 | 41 |
| To create pleasant settings for developments around towns | 50 | 45 | 42 | 37 | 46 | 42 | 24 | 43 | 53 | 41 |
| To provide places to cycle or ride horses | 46 | 38 | 43 | 35 | 42 | 38 | 23 | 45 | 57 | 40 |
| To restore former industrial land | 41 | 40 | 30 | 33 | 43 | 32 | 18 | 39 | 43 | 35 |
| So that the UK can buy less wood products from abroad | 39 | 37 | 35 | 30 | 34 | 26 | 21 | 36 | 43 | 33 |
| To provide wood as a renewable fuel | 35 | 35 | 30 | 28 | 33 | 28 | 22 | 36 | 43 | 32 |
| To provide timber for sawmills and wood processing | 37 | 32 | 27 | 19 | 30 | 24 | 18 | 31 | 35 | 28 |
| At least one reason | 97 | 87 | 88 | 90 | 92 | 89 | 87 | 94 | 97 | 91 |

Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Regional comparisons

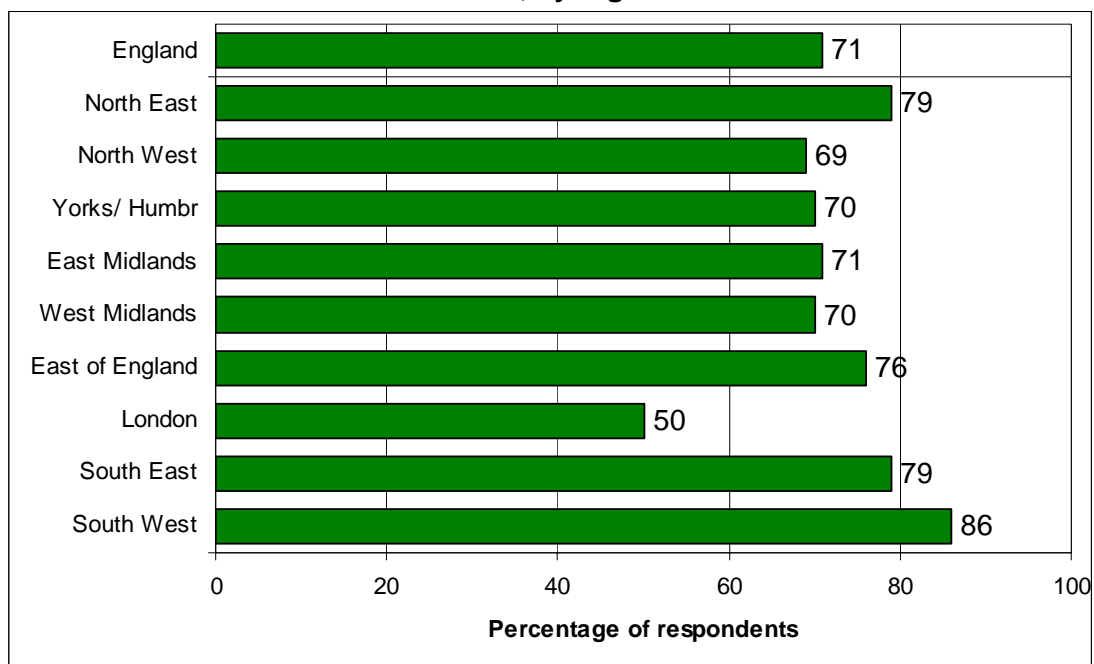
Respondents from the North East and South West were more likely than other regions to select at least one reason to support forestry with public money.

Adults living in London were much less likely than other regions to consider providing places for wildlife to live a good reason to support forestry with public money (50% compared with 69%-86%, Figure 3).

When considering each reason individually, adults from London were less likely than those in other regions to consider them a good reason to support forestry (e.g. 37% of Londoners and 61%-76% of those from other regions thought providing places to visit and walk in was a good reason to support forestry with public money).

Adults in the East Midlands, along with those from London, were also less likely than those from other regions to consider supporting the economy in rural areas a good reason. Those from Yorkshire and Humber, East of England, the East Midlands as well as London were less likely than those from other regions to select restoring former industrial land.

Figure 3: Support for public spending on forestry to provide places for wildlife to live, by region



Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Socio-demographic comparisons

Adults who were in employment (93% employed, 87% not employed), were white (92% white, 80% other), who had visited woodland (96% visited, 81% not visited) or who were aware of the Forestry Commission (95% aware of FC, 84% not aware of FC), were more likely to have supported at least one of the reasons.

Figure 4 shows the socio-demographic variation in the top reason to support forestry, to provide places for wildlife to live. Adults who are female, in social class ABC1, white, and who have a car in their household are more likely to think this a good reason. This is also true of those who are aware of the Forestry Commission or who have visited woodland.

When considering the other reasons, males are more likely than females to support restoring former industrial land, and females are more likely than males to support providing places to visit and walk in or to provide places to cycle or ride horses.

When considering each reason individually, older respondents are more likely to support 6 of the 13 reasons (e.g. 28% of 16-34 year olds, 45% of 35-54 year olds and 48% of those aged 55+ selected making woods accessible to all in the community).

Again those in social class ABC1, those who had visited woodland and those who were aware of the FC were more likely to support each of the reasons in Table 3 (e.g. 65% of ABC1s and 38% of C2DEs selected 'supporting the economy in rural areas'; 66% of those who had visited woodland and 42% of non-visitors selected 'preventing the greenhouse effect and global warming'; 69% of those who were aware of the FC and 39% of those who were not selected 'improving the countryside landscape').

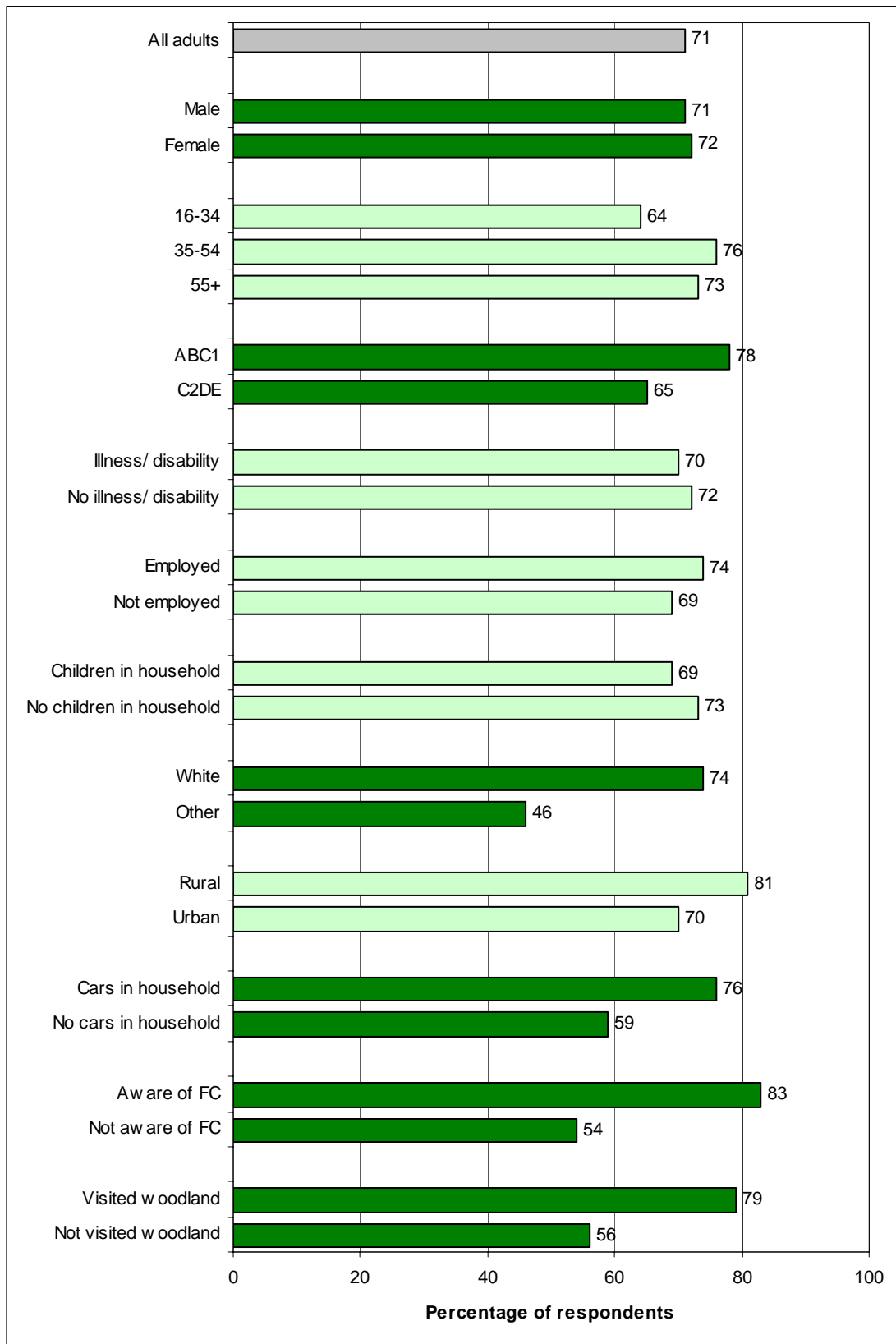
For each of 5 of the 13 reasons to support forestry, those from a white background were more likely to give support than those from an ethnic minority background (e.g. 65% of those from a white background and 30% of those from a non-white background supported 'providing places to visit and walk in').

Adults living in rural areas were more likely than those in urban areas to select 3 of the reasons; to provide timber to sawmills and wood processing, to provide wood as a renewable fuel, and so the UK can buy less wood products from abroad (e.g. 42% of rural residents and 31% of urban residents selected 'the UK buying less wood products from abroad').

Adults with a car in their household were more likely than those without a car in their household to select 4 of the reasons (e.g. 46% of those with a car in their household and 30% of those without a car in their household selected 'creating pleasant settings for developments around towns').

Those who were aware of the Forestry Commission and those who had visited woodland were much more likely than others to select each of the reasons. The proportion selecting each reason was at least 25% higher for those aware of FC compared with others (e.g. 74% to 42% for 'creating places to visit and walk in') and mostly around 20% higher for those who had visited compared with others (e.g. 48% to 29% for 'helping rural tourism').

Figure 4: Support for public spending on forestry to provide places for wildlife to live, by socio-demographic variables



Base: Adults in England (3,412)

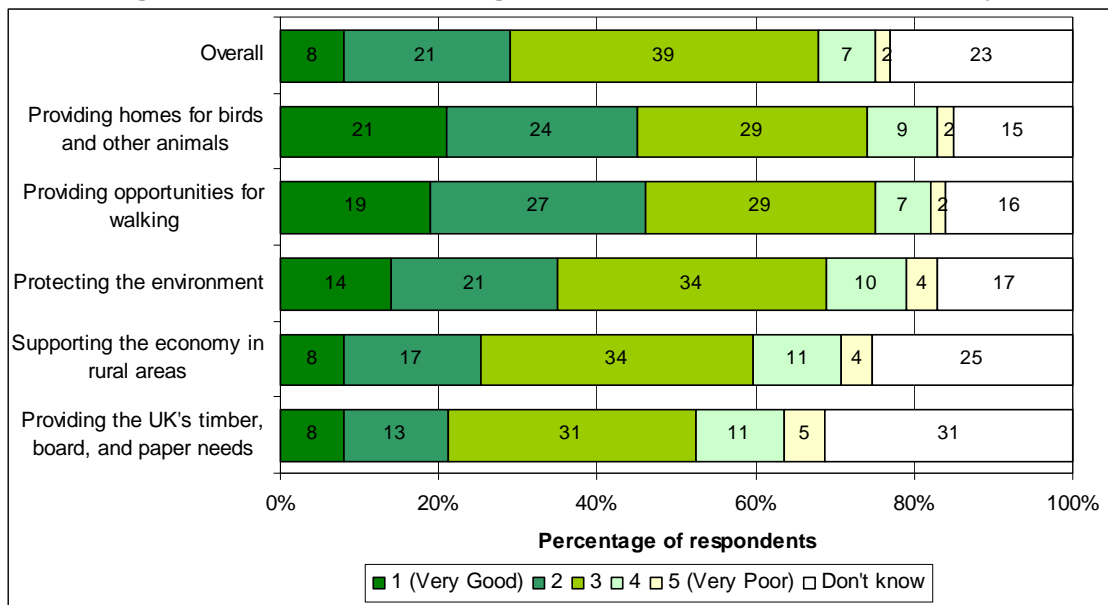
NOTE: Dark green indicates statistically significant variable in multivariate model, light green others

3.2 Ratings of UK forestry

Respondents were asked to rate the performance of UK forestry on a number of aspects. Ratings were given on a scale of 1-5, 1 being 'very good' and 5 being 'very poor'. Those rated most highly were 'providing homes for birds and other animals' and 'providing opportunities for walking' (Figure 5). These two highest-rated aspects of UK forestry are also considered the best reasons to support forestry with public money (see Table 3).

It should be noted that in some cases a large proportion of respondents said that they could not give a rating as they didn't know enough about particular aspects of forestry. This was especially so when asking about UK forestry 'providing the UK's timber, board and paper needs' and 'supporting the economy in rural areas' (31% and 25% respectively said that they did not know).

Figure 5: Performance rating of various functions of UK forestry



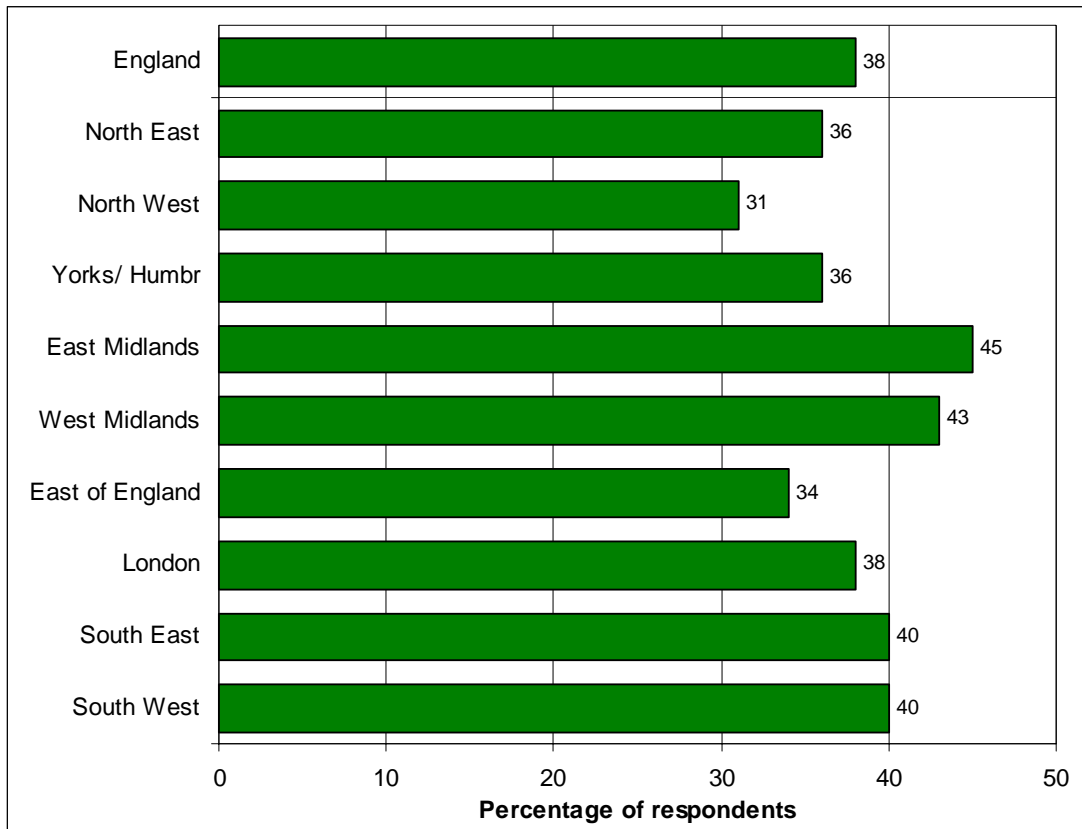
Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Regional comparisons

The comparisons that follow consider only the English adults who gave an opinion about the performance of UK forestry; respondents who said they did not know are excluded from this analysis. In Figure 6 and in all proportions quoted, percentages relate to the proportion of respondents who have an opinion. For ease of comparison, only those rating a particular aspect of forestry as '1 (Very good)' or '2' are considered here.

Figure 6 shows the overall performance rating of UK forestry by region. The proportion of respondents rating forestry overall as '1 (very good)' or '2' was highest in the East Midlands and West Midlands, and lowest in the the North West.

Figure 6: Overall performance rating of UK forestry as '1 (Very good)' or '2', by region

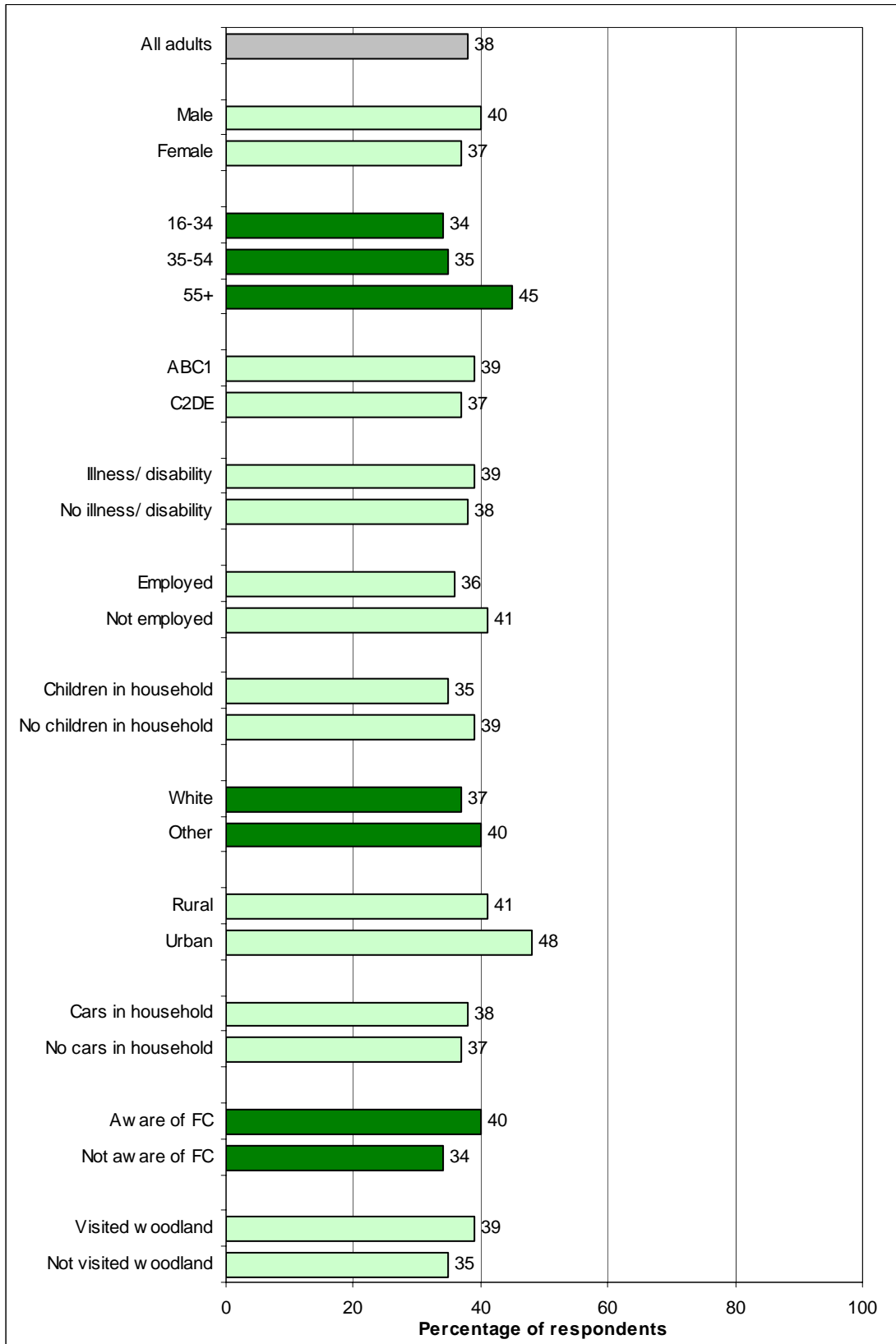


Base: Adults in England who gave an opinion (2,639)

Socio-demographic comparisons

Figure 7 shows that older adults (age 55+) were more likely to give a high overall performance rating for UK forestry. Those aware of the Forestry Commission gave higher ratings overall and for the three social and environmental functions, but not for supporting the rural economy or providing timber. Most of the other socio-economic variables were not significant.

Figure 7: Proportion of adults giving overall rating for forestry as '1 (Very good)' or '2', by socio-demographic variables



Base: Adults in England who gave an opinion (2,639)

NOTE: Dark green indicates statistically significant variable in multivariate model, light green others

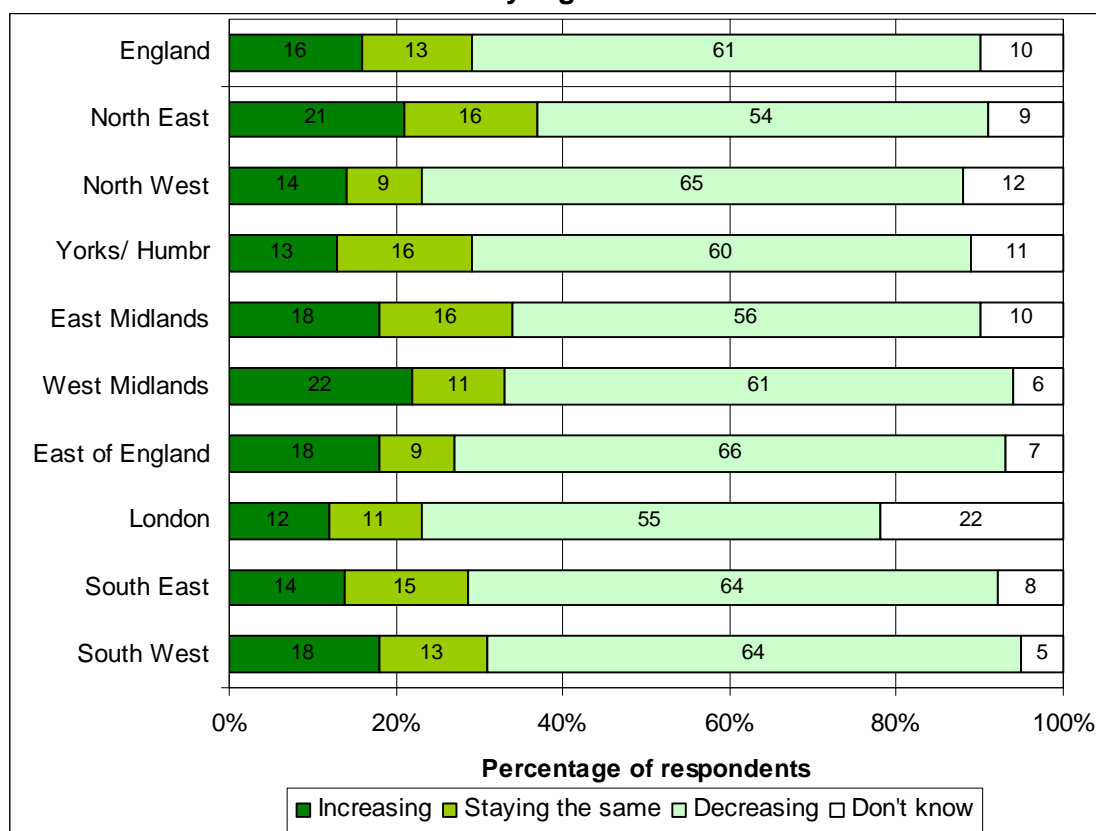
4. Changes to woodland

4.1 Perception of change in woodland area

Over the last few decades, the area of woodland in England has been steadily increasing, from 948 thousand hectares in 1980, to 1,104 thousand hectares in 2002¹. Increases in woodland area have occurred in all regions of England².

Respondents were asked whether they thought the area of woodland in the UK had been increasing or decreasing over the last twenty years. Only 16% of English adults correctly said that woodland area had increased, while 13% thought that it had stayed about the same, and 61% thought that woodland area had decreased (Figure 8).

Figure 8: Perception of change in woodland area over last 20 years, by region



Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Regional comparisons

Of those who gave an opinion, adults from North East England (Figure 8), the East Midlands and West Midlands were more likely to have perceived that the woodland area in the UK had increased or stayed the same over the last 20 years. Note that a much higher proportion of adults in London than the other regions said that they did not know whether the amount of woodland in the UK had increased or decreased.

¹ Forestry statistics 2002, Forestry Commission, Edinburgh, 2002

² National inventory of woodland and trees: England, Forestry Commission, Edinburgh, 2001

Socio-demographic comparisons

Males, older adults, those in social class ABC1 and those who were aware of the FC were more likely to think that the woodland area had increased in the last few years (e.g. 20% of males and 12% of females perceive the woodland area is increasing. The same is true of 11% of 16-34 year olds, 17% of 35-54 years olds and 19% of those aged 55+, 19% of ABC1s and 13% of C2DEs, as well as 20% of those who are aware of FC, 10% of those who are not aware of FC).

4.2 Desire for change in woodland area

Respondents were then asked whether or not they would like more woodland in their part of the country. Around two-thirds of respondents would like more woodland, whereas 2% of respondents would like less.

Respondents who wanted more woodland in their part of the country were asked how much more they would like to see. They divide almost equally into three groups: those who would like a little more, those wanting about half as much again, and those wanting more woodland than this (Table 4).

Table 4: Desire for more woodland in respondent's part of the country

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| More than half as much again | 26 | 29 | 29 | 22 | 17 | 18 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 20 |
| About half as much again | 26 | 19 | 20 | 26 | 28 | 30 | 20 | 28 | 26 | 24 |
| A little more | 15 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 27 | 28 | 23 | 22 | 26 | 22 |
| More – total | 67 | 67 | 66 | 67 | 72 | 76 | 60 | 66 | 66 | 67 |
| Neither more nor less | 28 | 26 | 31 | 30 | 26 | 21 | 33 | 32 | 33 | 29 |
| Less | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Don't know | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 |

Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Regional comparisons

The majority of respondents across all regions wanted to see an increase in the amount of woodland in their area. This desire was highest in the East of England (76%) and lowest in London (60%). Of those who wanted to see more woodland, larger increases were wanted in Yorkshire and Humber, North West and North East.

Socio-demographic comparisons

Increases in woodland area were wanted most strongly by respondents aged 35-54 (66% of 16-34 year olds, 71% of 35-54 year olds, and 63% of those aged 55+) and those who had heard of the Forestry Commission (72% of those aware of the Forestry Commission, 59% of those not aware).

4.3 Public consultations over woodland change and use

Involvement of local communities is recommended when making decisions about changing the look or use of woodlands.

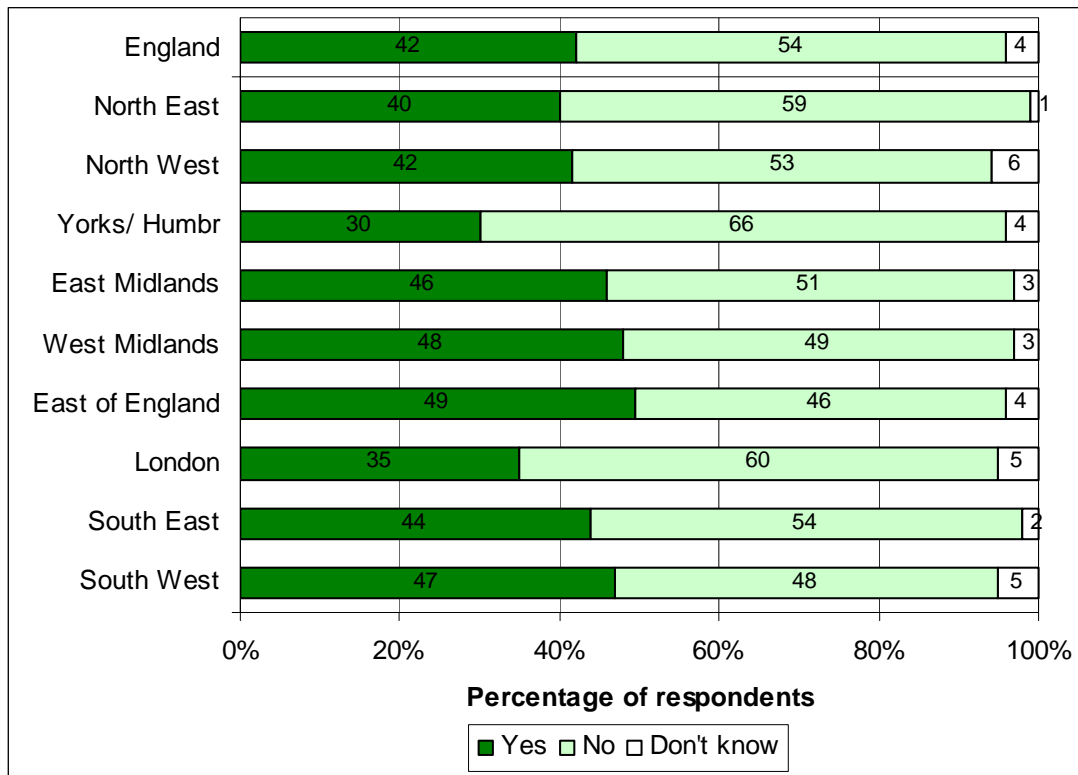
Respondents were asked if they had ever been consulted about plans for creating, managing or using woodlands in their area. 6% of respondents in England said they had been consulted. Respondents more likely to say they had been consulted were those in social class ABC1 (8% of ABC1s and 4% of C2DEs), those with a car in their household (7% of those with a car and 4% of those without) and those who had visited woodland (7% of those who visited woodland, 3% of those who had not).

Respondents were then asked if they would like to be consulted (again) about plans for creating, managing or using woodlands in their area. A total of 42% of adults (79% of those who had previously been consulted and 41% of those who had not) would like to be consulted in the future.

Regional comparisons

Figure 9 shows the proportion of respondents in each region that would like to be consulted about plans for creating, managing or using woodland in their area. Respondents from Yorkshire and Humber and London were least enthusiastic about being consulted in future (30% and 35% respectively).

Figure 9: Whether respondent would like to be consulted about plans regarding woodland in their area, by region



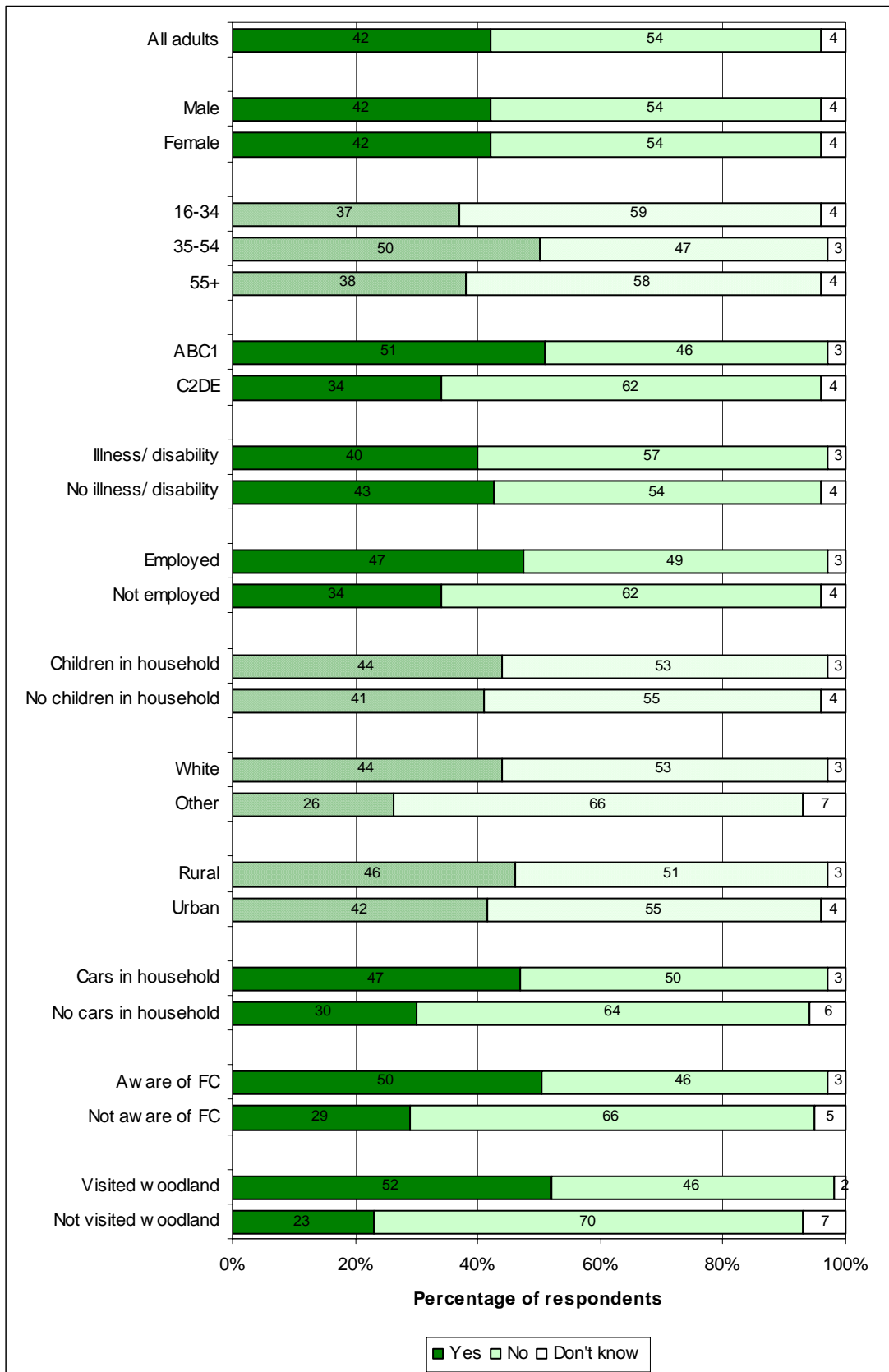
Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Socio-demographic comparisons

Figure 10 shows that significantly more respondents aged 35-54 said that they would like to be consulted about plans for creating, managing or using woodland in their area, compared with respondents aged both 16-34 and 55 or above.

Adults in social class ABC1, without a long-term illness or disability, who are employed and have a car in their household were more likely to say that they would like to be consulted about woodland plans in future. This was also true of those who are aware of the FC or who have visited woodland.

Figure 10: Whether respondent would like to be consulted about plans regarding woodland in their area, by socio-demographic variables



Base: Adults in England (3,412)



NOTE: Dark green indicates statistically significant variable in multivariate model, light green others

5. Awareness of certified symbols on wood products

Around 25% of all woodland in England is certified as being sustainably managed¹. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Pan-European Forest Certification (PEFC) are Global and European schemes respectively, which certify woodlands as well as wood and wood products originating from sustainably managed woodland. Each scheme has a logo, which is displayed on certified products.

Respondents were first asked if they had been shopping for wood products in the last few years. Almost half (47%) said that this was the case. These respondents were asked if they recognised either the FSC or the PEFC symbols (Table 5). 31% of adults who had been shopping for wood products in the last few years said that they recognised the FSC symbol, and 8% said that they recognised the PEFC symbol. 61% did not recollect having seen either symbol.

Table 5: Respondents who had seen the FSC or PEFC logos on wood products

| | England |
|--|---------|
| FSC logo  | 31 |
| PEFC logo  | 8 |
| None | 61 |
| Don't know | 4 |

Base: Adults in England who had been shopping for wood products (1,614)

Regional comparisons

Adults in the South West were most likely to have been shopping for wood products in the last few years (58%); those from London were the least likely (35%). Of those who had been shopping for wood products, the FSC logo was more likely to be recognised by those living in the West Midlands (41%) than those from other regions.

¹ UK indicators of sustainable forestry, Forestry Commission, Edinburgh, 2002

Table 6: Respondents who had seen the FSC or PEFC logos on wood products, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|---|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Been shopping in last few years | 46 | 43 | 50 | 47 | 48 | 49 | 35 | 51 | 58 | 47 |
| <i>Percentage of those who have been shopping for wood products</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| FSC logo | 29 | 29 | 34 | 30 | 41 | 29 | 25 | 32 | 30 | 31 |
| PEFC logo | 12 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 8 |
| None | 66 | 64 | 59 | 64 | 50 | 64 | 64 | 60 | 64 | 61 |
| Don't know | 0 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 |

Base: Adults in England who had been shopping for wood products in the last few years (1,614)

Socio-demographic comparisons

The FSC symbol was more likely to be recognised by the following adults; those who are younger (31% of those age 54 or under, 29% of those aged 55+), in social class C2DE (29% of ABC1s, 32% of C2DEs), who were aware of the FC (33% of those aware of the FC, 23% of those not aware of the FC) or had a car in their household (32% of those with a car, 23% of those without a car in their household).

The PEFC logo was more likely to be recognised by males (9% of males, 6% of females), those with a long-term illness or disability (11% of those with an illness/disability, 7% of those without), those living in urban areas (9% urban, 4% rural) and those without a car in their household (12% of those without a car, 7% of those with a car).

6. Forestry Commission and other organisations

6.1 Awareness of organisations

The National Trust (82%) was the most recognised organisation from the list in Table 7. Three-fifths (61%) of respondents in England had heard of the Forestry Commission. Three-fifths (62%) recognised the Environment Agency, and around half of respondents (49%) recognised the name Woodland Trust. 7% of respondents had not heard of any of the organisations listed in the survey (or didn't know).

Table 7: Respondents who had heard of various organisations¹

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|---------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| National Trust | 85 | 81 | 80 | 86 | 83 | 85 | 61 | 86 | 95 | 82 |
| Environment Agency | 49 | 59 | 57 | 66 | 66 | 71 | 45 | 67 | 75 | 62 |
| Forestry Commission | 59 | 59 | 59 | 56 | 61 | 69 | 30 | 73 | 84 | 61 |
| Woodland Trust | 46 | 45 | 39 | 50 | 48 | 60 | 30 | 59 | 68 | 49 |
| National Forest | 42 | 27 | 38 | 46 | 44 | 32 | 25 | 34 | 35 | 35 |
| English Nature | 29 | 27 | 24 | 33 | 32 | 38 | 23 | 42 | 51 | 33 |
| Countryside Agency | 22 | 32 | 26 | 35 | 34 | 33 | 15 | 40 | 48 | 32 |
| Tree Wardens | 18 | 19 | 14 | 20 | 21 | 27 | 9 | 26 | 27 | 20 |
| Community Forests | 15 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 10 | 7 | 12 | 14 | 10 |
| Forest Enterprise | 12 | 7 | 11 | 4 | 9 | 10 | 4 | 9 | 18 | 9 |
| Forest Research | 8 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 13 | 10 | 9 |
| Forest Service | 9 | 9 | 6 | 6 | 12 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 9 |
| None/ Don't know | 6 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 16 | 5 | 0 | 7 |

Base: Adults in England (3,412)

35% of respondents said that they had heard of the National Forest, 10% were aware of community forests, and 9% each were aware of Forest Enterprise and Forest Research.

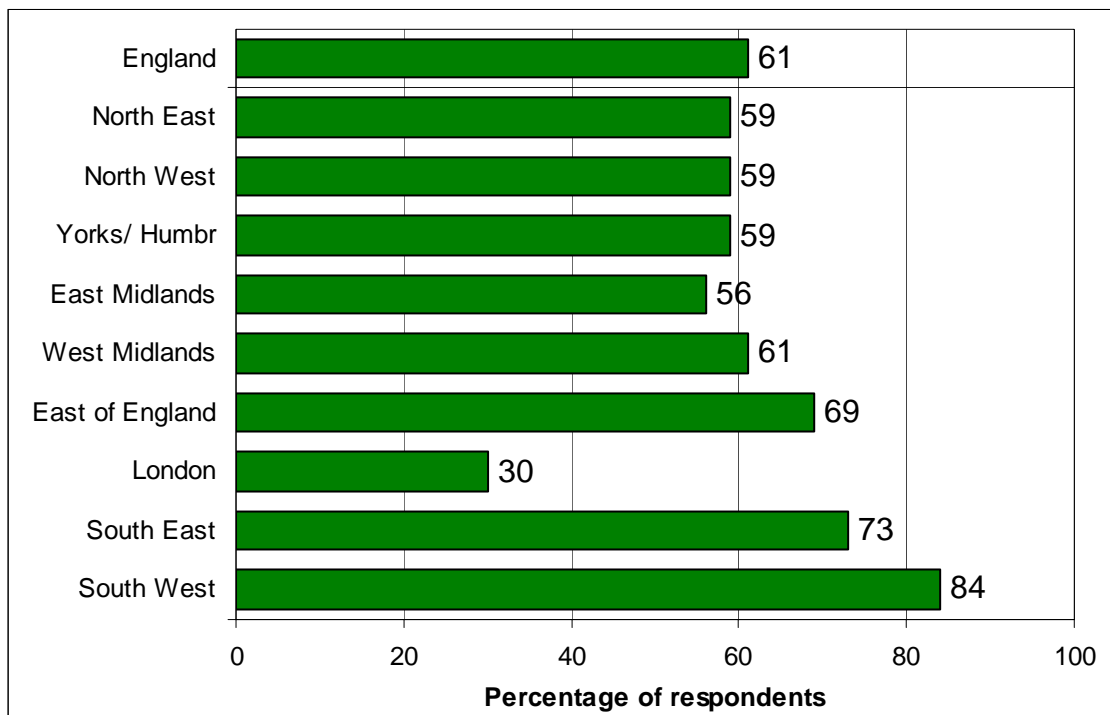
¹ It should be noted that the level of awareness may be overstated, as some respondents may think they recognised a similar name (e.g. National Forest is similar to 'National Trust' or 'national forest estate')

Regional comparisons

In the following comparisons, only the awareness of the Forestry Commission is considered. There are also many regional and socio-demographic differences in the level of awareness of other organisations.

Figure 11 shows that respondents from the South West were more likely than other regions to be aware of the Forestry Commission. Those from London in particular, as well as the North East, North West, Yorkshire and Humber, and the East Midlands were less likely than other regions.

Figure 11: Respondents who were aware of the Forestry Commission, by region

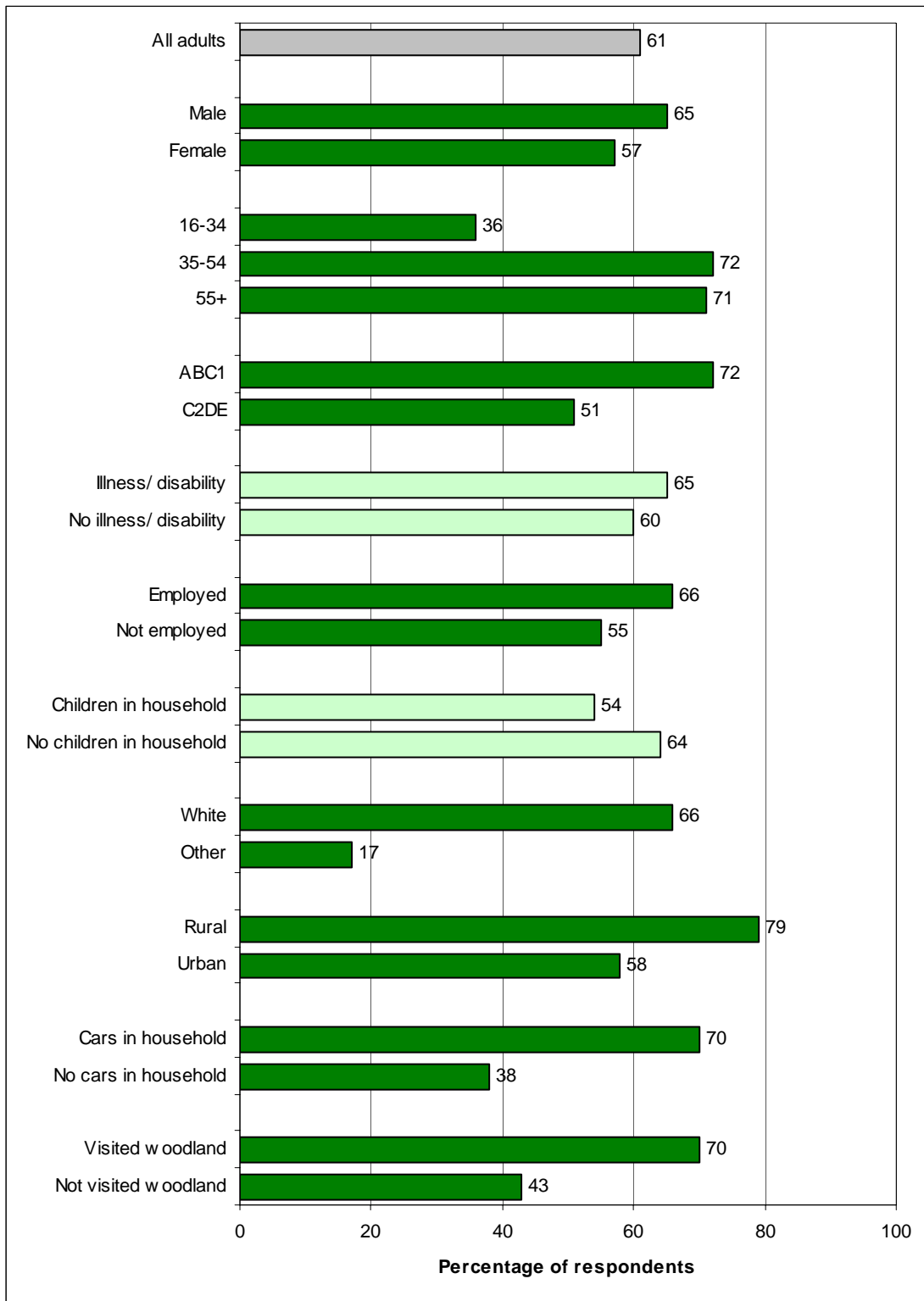


Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Socio-demographic comparisons

Adults who are male, aged 35 or over, in social class ABC1 or in employment were more likely to have heard of the Forestry Commission (Figure 12). The same is true of adults who are white, who live in a rural area, who have a car in their household or who have visited woodland.

Figure 12: Proportion of adults who are aware of the Forestry Commission, by socio-demographic variables



Base: Adults in England (3,412)

NOTE: Dark green indicates statistically significant variable in multivariate model, light green others

6.2 Forestry Commission

The Forestry Commission is the government department responsible for forestry in Great Britain, acting mainly through National Offices in England, Scotland and Wales. Respondents were asked what sort of organisation they thought the Forestry Commission was.

59% of respondents in England correctly identified the Forestry Commission as a government department. A quarter thought that it was an independent body, 11% said that they did not know its status (Table 8).

Table 8: Perception of status of Forestry Commission

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Government department or agency | 58 | 56 | 61 | 57 | 60 | 50 | 60 | 64 | 62 | 59 |
| Independent body | 24 | 28 | 20 | 23 | 30 | 29 | 33 | 20 | 22 | 25 |
| Body representing woodland owners | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Private company | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Don't know | 8 | 12 | 16 | 14 | 4 | 15 | 5 | 11 | 11 | 11 |

Base: Adults in England who had heard of the Forestry Commission (2,074)

The scope of the Forestry Commission

Table 9 shows the English perception of where the Forestry Commission operates. 85% of adults in England said that the Forestry Commission operates in England, 66% said that it operated in Scotland and 63% in Wales. 42% incorrectly perceived that the Forestry Commission also operated in Northern Ireland.

Table 9: Perception of where Forestry Commission operates

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| England | 91 | 83 | 84 | 83 | 88 | 84 | 85 | 87 | 85 | 85 |
| Scotland | 79 | 71 | 63 | 65 | 67 | 67 | 56 | 66 | 63 | 66 |
| Wales | 61 | 72 | 55 | 62 | 63 | 61 | 58 | 66 | 62 | 63 |
| Northern Ireland | 43 | 50 | 45 | 46 | 45 | 46 | 32 | 40 | 36 | 42 |
| Don't know | 4 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 12 | 9 |

Base: Adults in England who had heard of the Forestry Commission (2,074)

6.3 Forestry Commission activities

Most respondents showed a fairly good awareness of the range of the Forestry Commission activities¹. Highest proportions of adults were aware that the Forestry Commission improve woodland habitats for wildlife (90%) and let the public walk in their woodlands (89%). Relatively few adults were aware that the Forestry Commission gives grants to private woodland owners (18% said 'No'; and 43% did not know) and run cabins and campsites for forest holidays (25% said 'No' and 25% did not know).

Figure 13: Perception of activities carried out by the Forestry Commission



Base: Adults in England who had heard of the Forestry Commission (2,074)

Regional comparisons

Table 10 lists the perception of activities carried out by the Forestry Commission as a proportion of respondents in each region who had heard of the Forestry Commission. The table lists only those who did think that the Forestry Commission carried out the activities.

The same two activities - improving woodland habitats for wildlife and letting the public walk in woodlands – were identified by the highest proportions in all regions.

¹ It should be noted that the level of awareness may be overstated, as some respondents may have guessed that the 'correct' response to every activity listed was "yes".

Table 10: Perception of activities carried out by the Forestry Commission, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|---|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Improves woodland habitats for wildlife | 97 | 87 | 87 | 84 | 92 | 88 | 87 | 92 | 92 | 90 |
| Lets the public walk in its woods and forests | 95 | 84 | 88 | 87 | 92 | 85 | 87 | 91 | 91 | 89 |
| Provides trails for cycling and horseriding | 87 | 74 | 82 | 76 | 87 | 81 | 78 | 85 | 88 | 82 |
| Carries out scientific studies | 80 | 77 | 78 | 75 | 83 | 83 | 84 | 82 | 81 | 80 |
| Sells Christmas Trees | 82 | 61 | 58 | 52 | 72 | 48 | 39 | 48 | 64 | 57 |
| Runs cabins and campsites for forest holidays | 67 | 46 | 55 | 41 | 57 | 49 | 38 | 50 | 45 | 49 |
| Gives grants to private woodland owners | 40 | 37 | 39 | 44 | 43 | 38 | 41 | 34 | 36 | 38 |

Base: Adults in England who had heard of the Forestry Commission (2,074)

Socio-demographic comparisons

For the three activities that were most widely known - improving woodland habitats and letting the public walk in woods and providing trails - the socio-demographic differences were generally small. The largest differences were higher levels of awareness among those who have visited woodland, car-owners and among whites, but even some of these were not statistically significant.

More socio-demographic factors were related to variation in awareness that the Forestry Commission carries out scientific studies. For example, there were higher levels of awareness among males (84% of males and 77% of females), social class ABC1 (84% of ABC1 and 75% of C2DE) and those employed (84% of those employed and 77% of those not working).

For Forestry Commission selling Christmas trees, the differences included higher awareness in rural areas (67% of rural and 55% of urban) and older age groups (37% of 16-34, 44% of 35-54, 69% of 55 and over).

Awareness of Forestry Commission cabins and campsites was also higher among older age groups (39% of 16-34, 43% of 35-54, 60% of 55 and over) and lower among those with children in their household (43% of those with children, 52% without).

The socio-demographic differences were generally small for awareness that the Forestry Commission gives grants to private woodland owners.

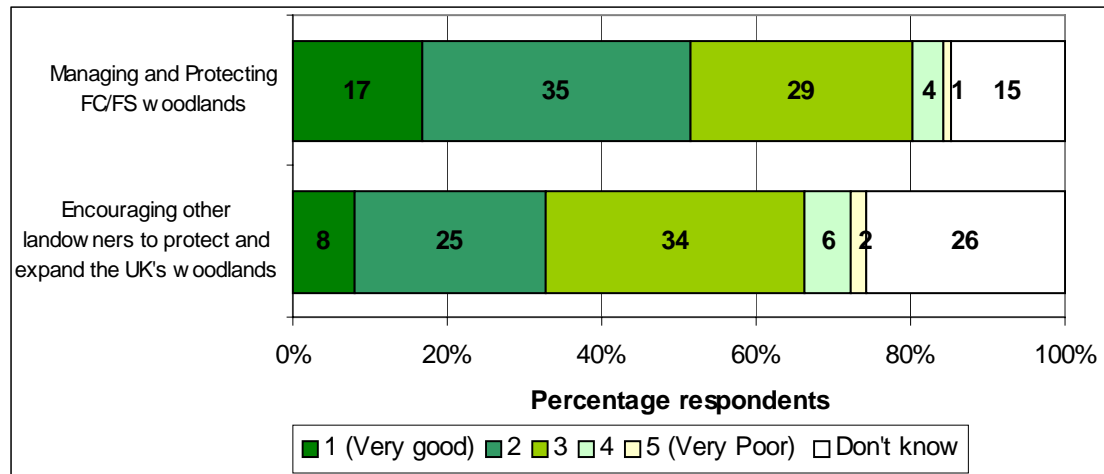
6.4 Performance of the Forestry Commission

Respondents were asked to rate the performance of the Forestry Commission in managing and protecting Forestry Commission woodland and in encouraging other landowners to protect and expand the UK's woodlands.

More than half of respondents (52%) who were aware of the Forestry Commission gave the performance in managing and protecting their own woodlands a rating of '1 (very good)' or '2'.

A third (33%) gave ratings of 1 or 2 for the Forestry Commission's work with other landowners. Over a quarter of respondents said that they could not rate the Forestry Commission on this activity.

Figure 14: Rating of the Forestry Commission performance



Base: Adults in England who had heard of the Forestry Commission (2,074)

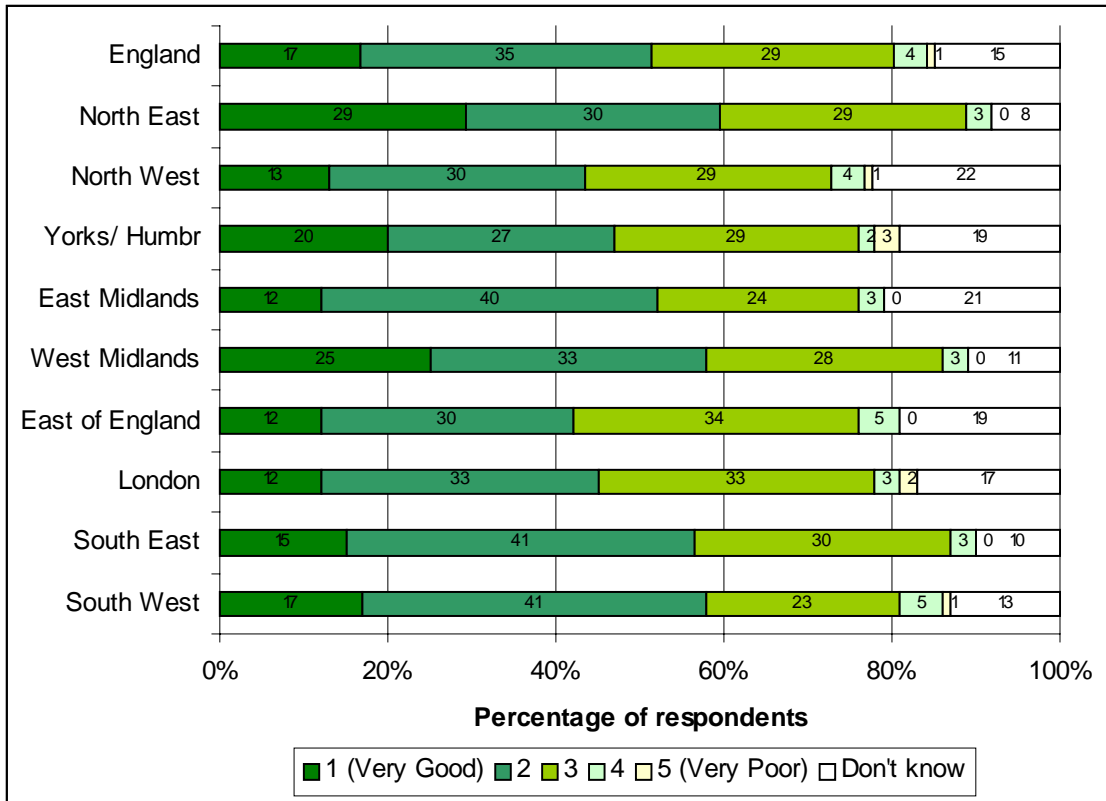
Regional comparisons

Among respondents who had heard of the Forestry Commission in each region, the highest proportions rating its performance in managing and protecting its woodlands as either '1 (Very Good)' or '2' came from the North East (59%), West Midlands, South West and South East. The lowest proportion giving either of these ratings came from the East of England (42%), North West and London (Figure 15).

The highest proportion rating its performance in encouraging other landowners to protect and expand the UK's woodlands as either '1 (Very Good)' or '2' were in London (42%), the North East and West Midlands. The lowest proportion giving either of these ratings came from the East of England (22%) (Figure 16).

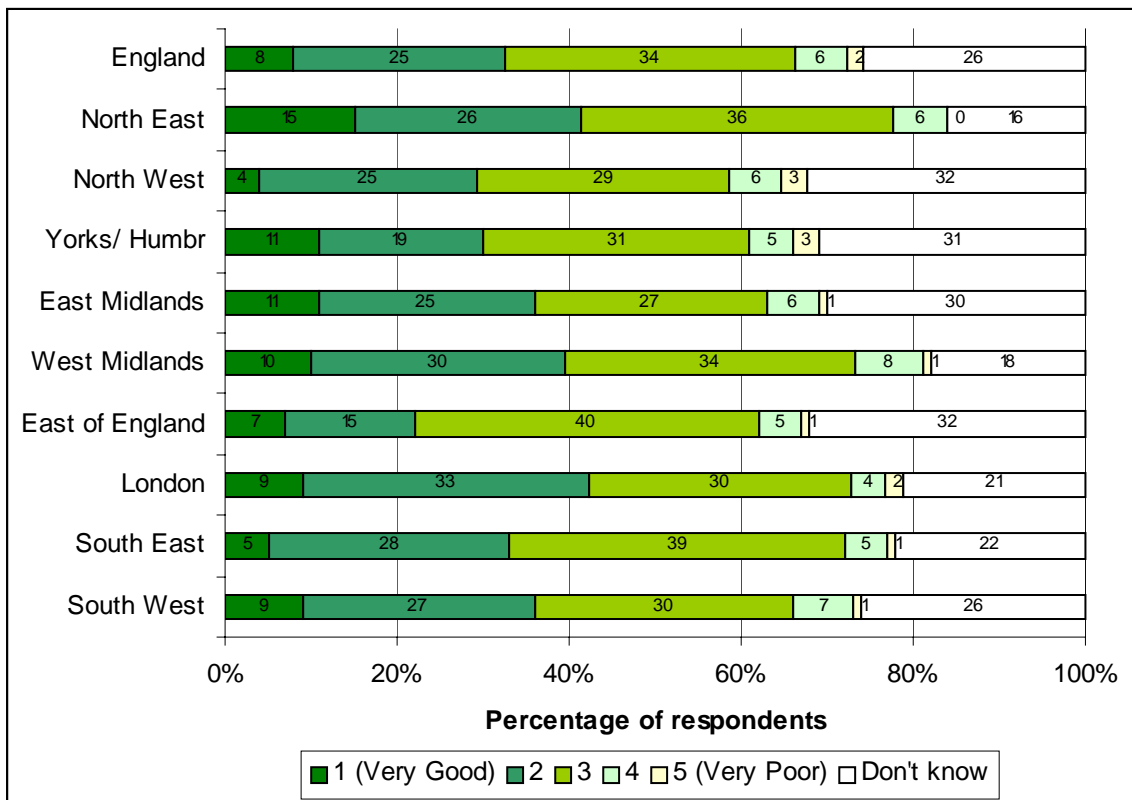
The large proportion of respondents replying 'don't know' in many regions may suggest that many people do not feel that they have the knowledge to give a fair rating on these issues, particularly for FC activities with other landowners.

Figure 15: Rating of managing and protecting FC/FS woodlands, by region



Base: Adults in England who had heard of the Forestry Commission: (2,074)

Figure 16: Rating of encouraging other landowners to protect and expand the UK's woodlands, by region



Base: Adults in England who had heard of the Forestry Commission (2,074)

7. Woodland recreation

The creation and improvement of public access to woodlands for recreation is one of the aims of forestry policy.

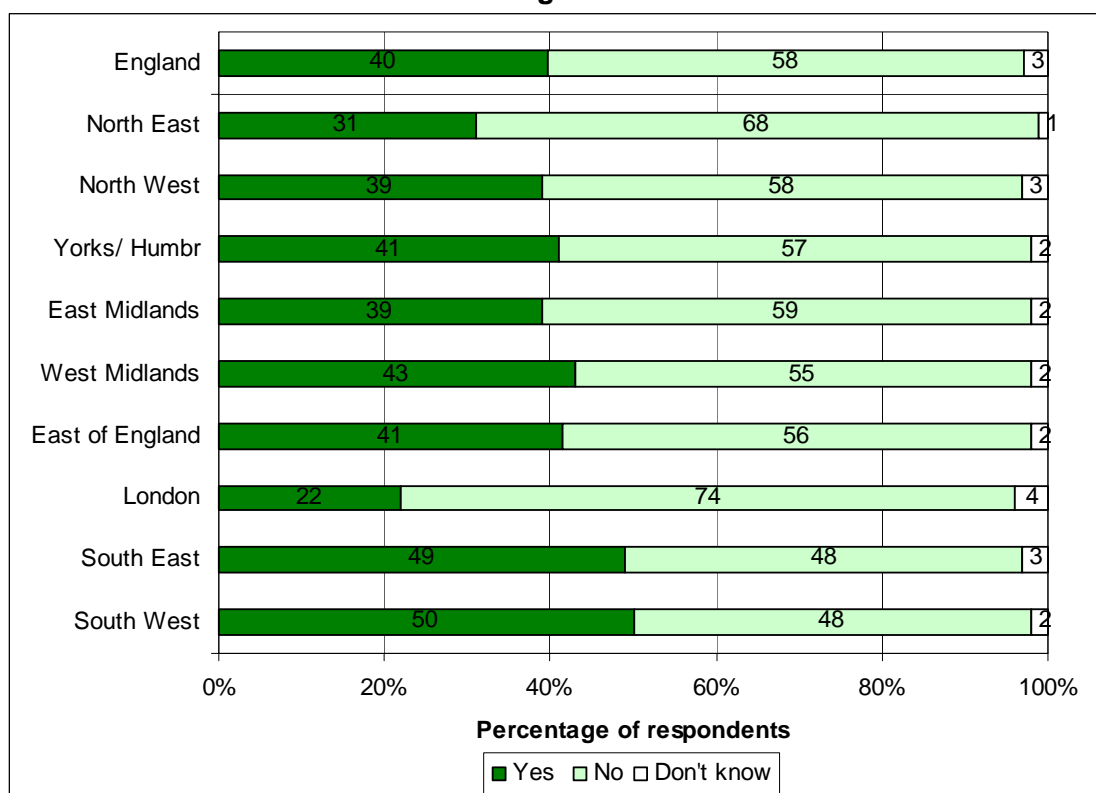
7.1 Access to woodland

Respondents were asked whether there was a woodland that they could get to easily without using a car or other transport. 40% said that there was an accessible woodland and 58% that there was not.

Regional comparisons

The highest proportions with accessible woodland were in the South West (50%) and the South East (49%) (Figure 17).

Figure 17: Access to woodland without the use of a car or other transport, by region



Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Socio-demographic comparisons

The socio-demographic groups in which higher proportions said that they could easily get to woodland without using a car or other transport included those in rural areas (47% rural, 39% urban), those in social class ABC1 (44% of ABC1, 36% of C2DE), those without a long-term illness or disability (32% with illness/disability, 42% without), white (42% white, 20% other) and ironically those with a car (44% with a car, 30% without).

7.2 Visits to woodland

Around two-thirds of respondents (66%) said that they had visited woodlands for walks, picnics or other recreation in the last few years (Table 11).

Most of those who had visited woodland said that they had visited woodlands in the countryside (83% in total) and half said that they had visited woodlands in and around towns (50% in total). 49% of woodland visitors have only visited woodlands in the countryside, and 16% have only visited woodlands in and around towns. Around a third have visited both rural and urban woodlands (34%).

Table 11: Woodland visited in the last few years, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|--|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Visited woodland in the last few years | 64 | 61 | 65 | 69 | 69 | 68 | 50 | 75 | 76 | 66 |
| Respondents who have visited woodland (%) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Visited woodlands in the countryside | 51 | 49 | 57 | 46 | 49 | 40 | 40 | 51 | 54 | 49 |
| Visited woodlands in and around towns | 12 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 24 | 29 | 9 | 7 | 16 |
| Both | 36 | 33 | 26 | 37 | 33 | 34 | 29 | 39 | 35 | 34 |
| Don't know | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 2 |

Base: Adults in England (3,412) for top row; those who have visited woodland (2,285) for other rows

Regional comparisons

Respondents from the South West (76%) and South East (75%) were most likely to have visited a woodland in the last few years. Respondents from London were least likely to have visited a woodland in the last few years, with only half of them having done so (Table 11).

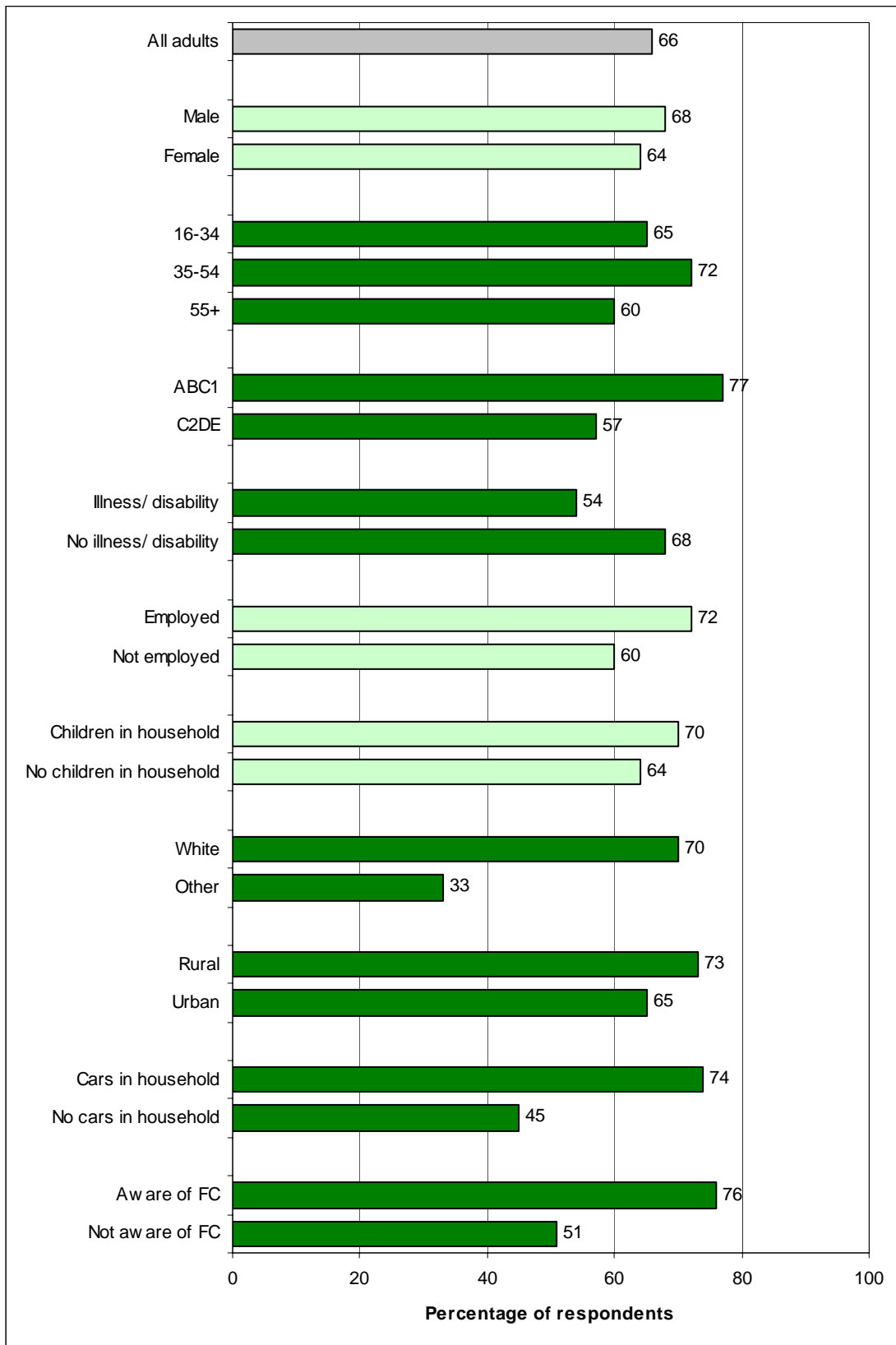
Of those who had visited woodland in the last few years, in all regions more than two-thirds had visited woodlands in the countryside, while in London and East of England more than half had visited woodland in and around towns.

Socio-demographic comparisons

Significantly more respondents aged 35-54 had visited forests or woodlands in the last few years than respondents aged either 16-34 or 55 and above (Figure 18).

Woods in the countryside tended to attract more of those aged 55 and above, while woodland in towns attracted more of those aged 16-34.

Figure 18: Woodland visited in the last few years, by socio-demographic variables



Significantly more people from social class ABC1 visited woodland in the last few years for walks, picnics or other recreation. Of those respondents who had visited woodland, significantly more from class C2DE visited woodland only in and around

towns. More respondents from class ABC1 visited woodland both in the countryside and in and around towns.

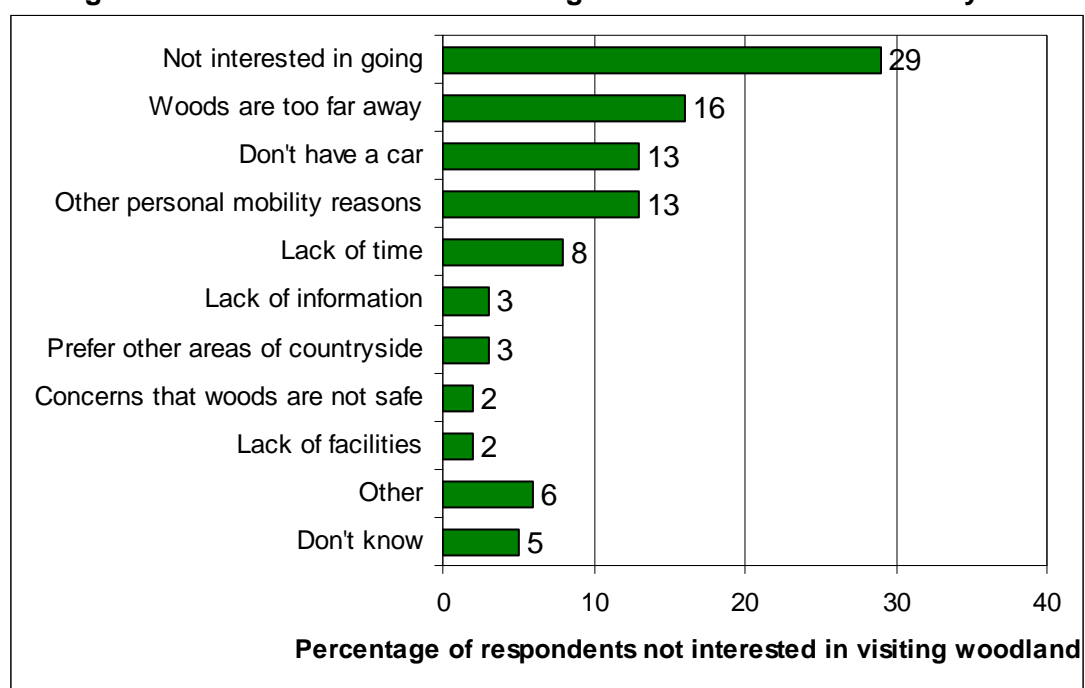
More respondents from rural areas had visited woodland in the last few years for walks, picnics or other recreation. Unsurprisingly, considerably more respondents from a rural environment visited woodland only in the countryside, whereas significantly more urban respondents visited woodland both in the countryside and in and around towns.

Other factors associated with higher participation in woodland visits were being aware of the Forestry Commission, having a car, having no long-term illness or disability, having access to the internet, or respondents from a white background.

7.3 Reasons for not visiting woodland

Respondents who had not visited woodland in the last few years were asked about the main reason for not visiting (Figure 19). The main reasons for not visiting a forest or woodland were that the respondents was not interested in going (29% of those who had not visited), that the woods were too far away (16%), the lack of a car or other personal mobility reasons (13% each)

Figure 19: Main reason for not visiting forest/woodland in last few years



Base: Adults in England who had not visited a woodland in the last few years (1,127)

Regional comparisons

Across almost all regions, the main reason for not visiting woodland was that the respondent was not interested in going. The woods being too far away was mentioned by about a quarter in the Midlands and East of England. The lack of a car was mentioned by almost one-fifth in the East Midlands, North East and Yorkshire & Humber (Table 12).

Table 12: Main reason for not visiting forest/woodland in last few years, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Not interested in going | 35 | 29 | 36 | 39 | 22 | 29 | 30 | 22 | 23 | 29 |
| Woods are too far away | 10 | 13 | 11 | 25 | 24 | 24 | 16 | 13 | 6 | 16 |
| Don't have a car | 19 | 13 | 18 | 22 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 14 | 13 | 13 |
| Other personal mobility reasons | 12 | 14 | 14 | 8 | 13 | 16 | 6 | 15 | 29 | 13 |
| Lack of time | 12 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 10 | 8 | 11 | 6 | 8 |
| Lack of information | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Prefer other areas of countryside | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 3 |
| Concerns that woods are not safe | 1 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Lack of facilities | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Other | 6 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 9 | 7 | 6 |
| Don't know | 0 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 5 |

Base: Adults in England who had not visited a woodland in the last few years (1,127)

Socio-demographic comparisons

The reason 'not interested in going' was given by more males (34% of males, 25% of females) and more respondents aged 16-34 compared with older groups (40% of 16-34, 28% of 35-54, 22% of 55 and over).

More respondents aged 55 and over reported personal mobility reasons (27% of 55 and over, 4% average for other ages). More respondents aged 35-54 cited lack of time as a reason for not visiting woodland (7% of 16-34, 13% of 35-54, 4% of 55 and over).

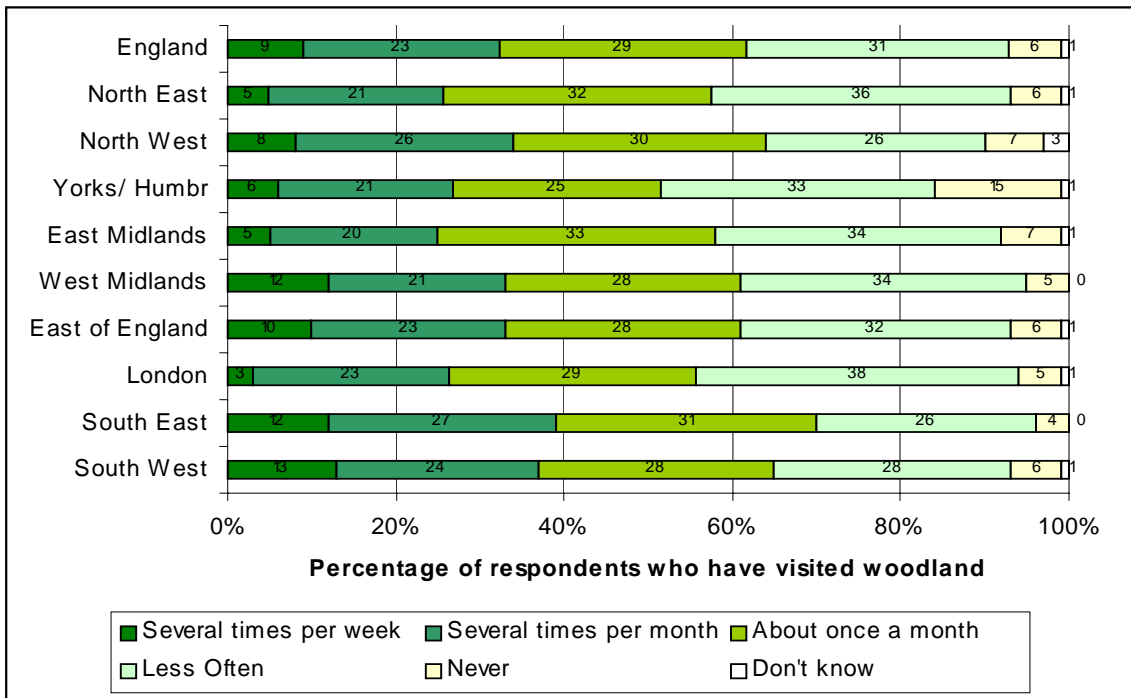
Not having a car was cited by more respondents from class C2DE (8% ABC1, 16% C2DE) and by more of those not working (8% employed, 17% not working). The same factors were related to giving other mobility reasons as a reason for not visiting (8% ABC1, 15% C2DE; 3% employed, 20% not working).

7.4 Frequency of woodland visits

Of the respondents who had visited woodland in the last few years, 61% of visitors said that they visited at least once a month in the summer of 2002 (Figure 20). Around half as many (29%) said that they visited at least once a month in the winter of 2002/3 (Figure 21).

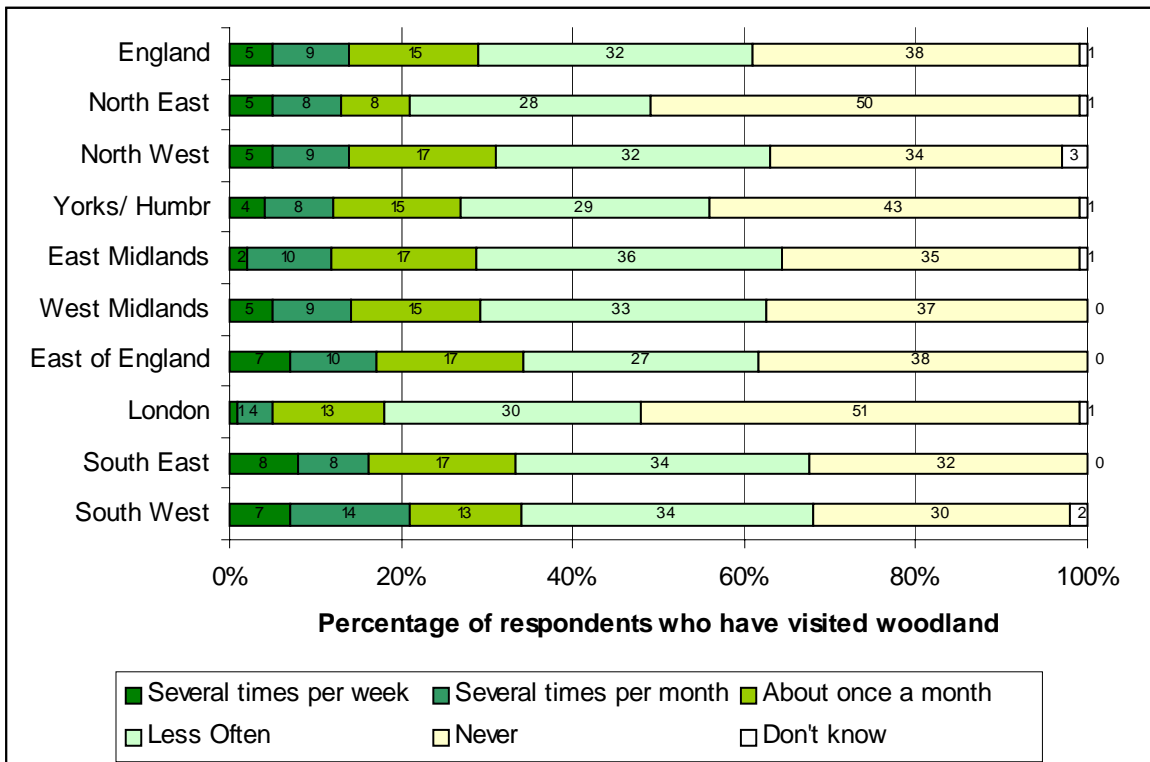
38% of those who had visited woodland in the last few years said that they did not visit during the most recent winter. Only 6% said that they did not visit during the most recent summer.

Figure 20: Frequency of visits in summer 2002, by region



Base: Adults in England who had visited a woodland in the last few years (2,285)

Figure 21: Frequency of visits in winter 2002/3, by region



Base: Adults in England who had visited a woodland in the last few years (2,285)

Regional comparisons

For the summer of 2002 (Figure 20), the regions with the most frequent visitors were the South West and South East. The regions with fewest frequent visitors were London, East Midlands and North East. Only 6% of those who had visited a woodland in the last few years did not visit during the summer of 2002, but this was higher (15%) in Yorkshire and Humber.

For the winter of 2002/3 (Figure 21), the regions with the most frequent visitors were the South West, South East and East of England. The region with fewest frequent visitors was London. Almost two-fifths (38%) of those who had visited a woodland in the last few years did not visit during the winter of 2002/3, and this was highest for London and the North East.

Socio-demographic comparisons

For the summer of 2002, there were no socio-demographic factors associated with the most frequent visiting (several times a week). Extending this to include those visiting several times a month, there was a tendency for less frequent visiting by older adults (36% of 16-34, 32% of 35-54, 29% of 55+) and by non-white (33% white, 20% other).

In the winter of 2002/3 no factors were significantly related to frequent visiting. Socio-demographic factors associated with never visiting in winter 2002/3 included having a car in the household (35% with car 49% without), long-term illness or disability (51% with illness/disability, 36% without), social class (34% ABC1, 43% C2DE), employment (34% employed, 43% not working) and ethnicity (37% white, 45% other).

7.5 Owners of woodlands visited

Woods and forests managed by the National Trust and the Forestry Commission / Forest Enterprise have been visited by the largest proportion of the respondents (43% and 38% respectively of the adults who had visited a woodland in the last few years). Local authority woodlands have also been visited by about a third (32%) of the woodland visitors. 18% of respondents who had visited woodland in the last few years did not know who owned any of the sites they visited (Table 13).

Table 13: Ownership of woodlands visited in last few years, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|--|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Forestry Commission/ Forest Enterprise | 45 | 33 | 36 | 30 | 40 | 36 | 22 | 44 | 53 | 38 |
| National Trust | 53 | 52 | 33 | 38 | 46 | 35 | 32 | 43 | 49 | 43 |
| Woodland Trust | 27 | 15 | 10 | 14 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 20 | 21 | 17 |
| Other Voluntary Bodies | 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| Local Authorities | 12 | 31 | 24 | 34 | 33 | 35 | 44 | 38 | 23 | 32 |
| Private Owners | 16 | 12 | 17 | 26 | 19 | 19 | 7 | 23 | 26 | 19 |
| None/ Don't know | 14 | 23 | 24 | 16 | 13 | 18 | 20 | 16 | 15 | 18 |

Base: Adults in England who had visited a woodland in the last few years (2,285)

Regional comparisons

Woodlands owned by the National Trust were the most commonly visited sites by respondents in the North East, the North West, the East Midlands, and the West Midlands. In Yorkshire and Humberside, the East of England, the South East, and the South West the majority of respondents visited woodlands managed by the Forestry Commission/ Forest Enterprise. The majority of respondents from London who had visited woodland in the last few years visited woodland owned by Local Authorities (Table 13).

Socio-demographic comparisons

Fewer respondents aged 16-34 said that in the last few years they had visited woodland owned by the Forestry Commission (22% 16-34, 43% 35-54, 47% 55 and over) and the National Trust (36% 16-34, 46% 35-54, 45% 55 and over). More of the younger respondents said they had visited forests owned by local authorities (35% 16-34, 33% 35-54, 28% 55 and over).

More respondents from social class ABC1 had visited woodland owned by the Forestry Commission (43% ABC1, 32% C2DE) and the National Trust (50% ABC1, 34% C2DE), but there was no significant difference for local authority woodland.

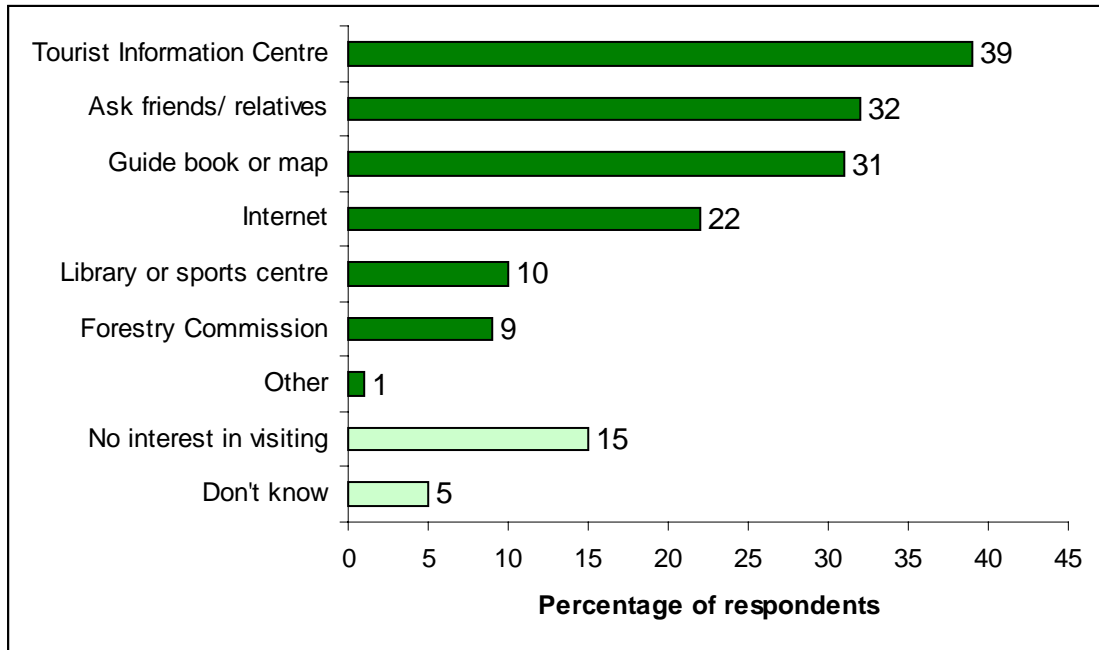
More respondents from rural areas visited woodland owned by the Forestry Commission (56% rural, 35% urban) and private owners (28% rural, 17% urban). More respondents from urban areas visited woodlands owned by local authorities (24% rural, 35% urban).

More respondents with a car in the household visited woodland owned by the Forestry Commission (41% with car, 24% without) and the National Trust (45% with car, 31% without), but there was no significant difference for local authority woodland.

7.6 Information about woodlands to visit

Figure 22 shows that Tourist Information Centres (39%), asking friends or relatives (32%) or a guide book or map (31%) were the sources of information most likely to be used to find out about a woodland not previously visited. The internet followed as the next most popular source of information (22%).

Figure 22: Sources of information normally used for woodlands not previously visited



Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Table 14: Sources of information normally used for woodlands not previously visited, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Tourist Information Centre | 51 | 37 | 39 | 34 | 46 | 35 | 25 | 41 | 47 | 39 |
| Ask friends/ relatives | 32 | 27 | 25 | 39 | 27 | 28 | 33 | 36 | 36 | 32 |
| Guide book or map | 24 | 25 | 27 | 26 | 35 | 34 | 27 | 35 | 42 | 31 |
| Internet | 22 | 18 | 17 | 22 | 20 | 28 | 24 | 25 | 20 | 22 |
| Library or sports centre | 10 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 17 | 10 | 8 | 13 | 11 | 10 |
| Forestry Commission | 6 | 10 | 9 | 4 | 13 | 7 | 4 | 12 | 12 | 9 |
| Other | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| No interest in visiting | 16 | 17 | 21 | 16 | 11 | 18 | 20 | 8 | 11 | 15 |
| None/ Don't know | 2 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 |

Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Regional comparisons

In all regions except the East Midlands and London, a Tourist Information Centre was the most likely source of information to be used to find out about woodland not previously visited. In the East Midlands and London, asking friends or relatives was more likely (Table 14).

Socio-demographic comparisons

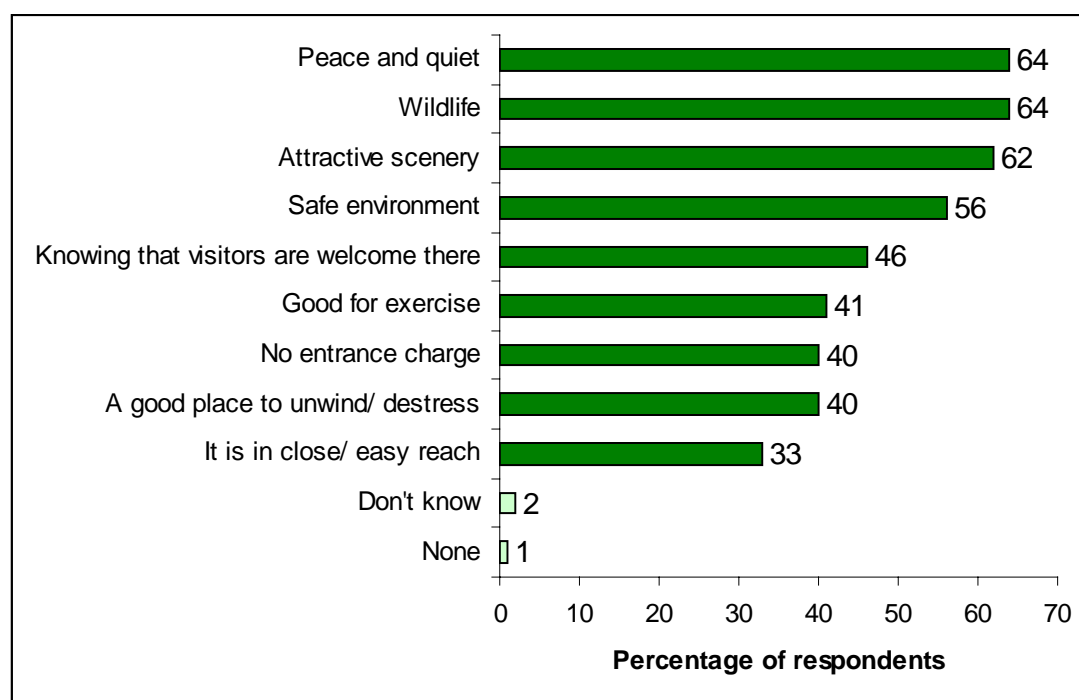
Fewer respondents aged 55 or above would ask friends or relatives (36% 16-34, 33% 35-54, 26% 55 and over) or make use of the internet (30% 16-34, 29% 35-54, 7% 55 and over). Fewer respondents aged 16-34 would consult a guide book or map (24% 16-34, 34% 35-54, 34% 55 and over) or visit a tourist information centre (29% 16-34, 43% 35-54, 41% 55 and over).

More respondents from social class ABC1 would ask friends or relatives (35% ABC1, 28% C2DE), consult a guide book or map (37% ABC1, 25% C2DE), visit a Tourist Information Centre (43% ABC1, 35% C2DE), or make use of the internet (31% ABC1, 14% C2DE). Respondents with a car were more likely to consult a guide book or map (34% with car, 22% without), a Tourist Information Centre (43% with car, 28% without), or the internet (35% with car, 14% without).

Respondents who had visited woodland in the previous few years were more likely to consult a guide book or map (38% visitors, 17% others), friends or relatives (38% visitors, 19% others), a Tourist Information Centre (47% visitors, 22% others) or the internet (27% visitors, 12% others).

7.7 Choosing a woodland to visit

Figure 23: Factors important when choosing to visit a woodland



Base: Adults in England interested in visiting woodland (2,811)

Respondents were asked to identify (from a list) the factors that were important to them when choosing to visit a woodland. Peace and quiet (64%), wildlife (64%), attractive scenery (62%) and a safe environment (56%) were the most frequently stated reasons (Figure 23).

Regional comparisons

In all regions, the same four factors were most important when choosing a woodland to visit – peace and quiet, wildlife, attractive scenery and safe environment. All factors were mentioned by fewer respondents in London than in other regions, but London still had the same factor being most important (Table 15).

Table 15: Factors important when choosing to visit a woodland, by region

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|--|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Peace and quiet | 67 | 60 | 66 | 67 | 68 | 64 | 56 | 67 | 68 | 64 |
| Wildlife | 70 | 64 | 67 | 68 | 70 | 70 | 47 | 66 | 64 | 64 |
| Attractive scenery | 66 | 56 | 67 | 64 | 64 | 63 | 50 | 66 | 64 | 62 |
| Safe environment | 61 | 58 | 54 | 48 | 58 | 55 | 48 | 60 | 56 | 56 |
| Knowing that visitors are always welcome there | 54 | 48 | 50 | 39 | 45 | 50 | 22 | 55 | 49 | 46 |
| Good for exercise | 40 | 37 | 48 | 40 | 50 | 42 | 29 | 42 | 48 | 41 |
| No entrance charges | 48 | 38 | 47 | 39 | 44 | 39 | 22 | 43 | 50 | 40 |
| A good place to unwind/ de-stress | 46 | 40 | 46 | 35 | 47 | 40 | 24 | 44 | 43 | 40 |
| It is in close/ easy reach | 30 | 27 | 32 | 28 | 39 | 29 | 26 | 39 | 39 | 33 |
| Don't know | 1 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| None | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Base: Adults in England interested in visiting woodland (2,811)

Socio-demographic comparisons

More females than males said that knowing that visitors are always welcome (50% female, 41% male) and a safe environment (59% female, 52% male) were important when choosing to visit woodland.

Fewer respondents aged 16-34, compared with older age groups, said that it was important to know visitors are always welcome (37% 16-34, 49% 35-54, 49% 55 and over), attractive scenery (56% 16-34, 65% 35-54, 64% 55 and over), wildlife (56% 16-34, 66% 35-54, 70% 55 and over) and good for exercise (35% 16-34, 43% 35-54, 45% 55 and over).

More respondents aged 55 or above said that it was important to have peace and quiet (58% 16-34, 63% 35-54, 71% 55 and over). More respondents aged 35-54 felt that the woodland being a good place to unwind or relieve stress was important (35% 16-34, 45% 35-54, 40% 55 and over) and that it was important to have a safe environment (56% 16-34, 59% 35-54, 51% 55 and over).

More respondents from social class ABC1 felt that attractive scenery was important when choosing to visit woodland (67% ABC1, 57% C2DE). More respondents from rural locations said that important factors were peace and quiet (70% rural, 63% urban), wildlife (70% rural, 63% urban) and no entrance charge (48% rural, 39% urban). Fewer respondents with children in their household said that important factors were peace and quiet (58% with children, 68% without) and wildlife (60% with children, 67% without).

More respondents who were aware of the Forestry Commission, or who had visited woodland in the last few years, said that all the factors listed in Table 15 were important when choosing to visit woodland. The largest differences included knowing that visitors are welcome (54% aware of FC, 29% not aware; 49% visitors, 35% non-visitors) and attractive scenery (69% aware of FC, 48% not aware; 66% visitors, 50% non-visitors).

7.8 Woodland recreation facilities

When visiting woodland for a day out, the facilities that respondents would most like to see are toilets (69%), a car park (57%), nature trails (53%), picnic areas (52%) and sign posted walks for all abilities (51%) (Table 16).

Table 16: Facilities that respondents would most like to see when visiting a woodland for a day out

| | N. East | N. West | Yrks/Hmbr | E. Mids | W. Mids | East of Eng | London | S. East | S. West | England |
|--|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Toilets | 78 | 68 | 72 | 77 | 77 | 65 | 58 | 69 | 70 | 69 |
| Car park | 69 | 56 | 59 | 55 | 59 | 59 | 35 | 61 | 67 | 57 |
| Nature trails | 57 | 48 | 53 | 50 | 60 | 59 | 37 | 61 | 58 | 53 |
| Picnic areas | 64 | 45 | 55 | 55 | 63 | 46 | 42 | 55 | 57 | 52 |
| Signposted walks suitable for all abilities | 57 | 52 | 50 | 52 | 53 | 51 | 29 | 57 | 62 | 51 |
| Information about the woodland | 49 | 38 | 48 | 40 | 37 | 44 | 26 | 46 | 47 | 41 |
| Children's play area | 48 | 32 | 44 | 37 | 42 | 35 | 28 | 37 | 30 | 36 |
| Café/ restaurant/ kiosk | 53 | 35 | 40 | 32 | 41 | 29 | 32 | 30 | 27 | 34 |
| Long walks (min. 2 miles) | 35 | 24 | 31 | 32 | 32 | 29 | 23 | 36 | 30 | 30 |
| Cycle trails | 36 | 22 | 32 | 24 | 30 | 28 | 20 | 35 | 29 | 28 |
| Minimum facilities to ensure peace and quiet | 32 | 26 | 28 | 27 | 29 | 30 | 20 | 33 | 32 | 28 |
| Accessible local staff | 34 | 22 | 17 | 15 | 18 | 15 | 15 | 18 | 17 | 18 |
| Shops with gifts and souvenirs | 27 | 14 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 12 |
| None/ Don't know | 3 | 13 | 12 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 4 | 9 | 7 |

Base: Adults in England (3,412)

Regional comparisons

In all regions (Table 16), the facility most wanted for woodland day out was toilets. There was relatively high demand for a car park in the North East and the South West. Nature trails were popular in the South East and West Midlands. Those in London generally had low levels of demand for all facilities.

Socio-economic comparisons

More females would like toilets at woodlands (73% female, 66% males).

More respondents aged 35 or over, compared with those aged 16-34, would like sign-posted walks (43% 16-34, 53% 35-54, 55% 55 and over), a car park (48% 16-34, 61% 35-54, 60% 55 and over), peace and quiet (22% 16-34, 31% 35-54, 30% 55 and over), toilets (64% 16-34, 71% 35-54, 72% 55 and over) and information about the woodland (36% 16-34, 43% 35-54, 42% 55 and over). More respondents aged 16-54, compared with those aged 55 and over, would like to see cycle trails (32% 16-34, 31% 35-54, 21% 55 and over) and a children's play area (39% 16-34, 40% 35-54, 30% 55 and over).

More respondents from social class ABC1 would like to see sign-posted walks (55% ABC1, 47% C2DE), long walks (35% ABC1, 26% C2DE), a car park (63% ABC1, 51% C2DE), information about the woodland (46% ABC1, 36% C2DE) and peace and quiet (33% ABC1, 24% C2DE). On the other hand, more respondents from class C2DE would like to see children's play areas (31% ABC1, 40% C2DE).

More respondents from rural locations wanted sign-posted walks (59% rural, 49% urban) and a car park (64% rural, 55% urban). More respondents from urban areas would like to see a café, restaurant or kiosk (28% rural, 35% urban)

More respondents with children in their household would like to see picnic areas (57% with children, 50% without) and children's play areas (54% with children, 27% without).

More respondents with a long-term illness or disability would like to see a café, restaurant or kiosk (43% with illness/disability, 33% without), a souvenir shop (19% with illness/disability, 11% without) and accessible local staff (25% with illness/disability, 17% without).

Almost all facilities were wanted by more respondents who have visited woodland in the past few years, compared with non-visitors, and by those aware of the Forestry Commission. Large differences included sign-posted walks (58% visitors, 36% non-visitors; 62% aware of FC, 33% not aware) and information about the woodland (66% visitors, 39% non-visitors; 67% aware of FC, 40% not aware).

Appendix 1: Cross-breaks used in analysis

Table 17 details the cross-breaks used in the analysis of this data. It also shows the proportion of the weighted sample that fall into each category (e.g. with gender, 49% were male and 51% were female). For gender, age and social class, this represents the true distribution of the adult population.

Table 17: Variables used in regression analysis

| Variable | Divisions | Distribution of sample | Details |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Geographic region | North East | 6% | Government Office Regions |
| | North West | 13% | |
| | Yorkshire and Humber | 10% | |
| | East Midlands | 8% | |
| | West Midlands | 10% | |
| | East of England | 10% | |
| | London | 14% | |
| | South East | 18% | |
| | South West | 10% | |
| Gender | Male Female | 49% 51% | |
| Age | 16-34 35-54 55+ | 30% 36% 34% | Adults 16 and over were divided into 3 age classes |
| Social Class | ABC1 C2DE | 47% 53% | ABC1: the chief income earner is a non-manual worker. C2DE the chief income earner is a manual worker or is unemployed ¹ |
| Long term illness or disability | Yes No | 17% 83% | From question in survey |
| Work status | Employed Not working | 52% 48% | Not working includes students, retired adults and unemployed |
| Children in household | Yes No | 34% 66% | Children under 16 in household |
| Ethnicity | White Other | 90% 10% | From question in survey |
| Location | Urban Rural | 86% 14% | From RSGB ranking of population of sampling point |
| Car in household | Yes No | 71% 29% | From question in survey |
| Aware of the Forestry Commission | Yes No | 61% 39% | From question in survey |
| Visited Woodland | Yes No | 66% 34% | From question in survey |

¹ Social class is defined by the working status and income of the chief income earner in the household.

Appendix 2: RSGB Random location sampling method

A unique sampling system has been developed by Taylor Nelson Sofres for its own use. Utilising 1991 UK Census small area statistics and the post code address file, GB south of the Caledonian Canal has been divided into 600 areas of equal population. From these 600 areas a master sampling frame of 300 points has been selected to reflect the country's geographical and socio-economic profile. The areas within each Standard Region were stratified into population density bands, and within band in descending order by percentage of population in socio-economic groups I and II.

To maximise the statistical accuracy of Omnibus sampling, sequential waves of fieldwork are allocated systematically across the sampling frame so as to ensure maximum geographical dispersion. The 300 primary sampling units are allocated to 12 sub-samples of 25 points each; with each sub-sample in itself being a representative drawing from the frame. For each wave of Omnibus fieldwork, a set of sub-samples is selected so as to provide the number of sample points required (typically c. 139 for 2,000 interviews). Across sequential waves of fieldwork all sub-samples are systematically worked, thereby reducing the clustering effects on questionnaires asked for two or more consecutive weeks.

Each primary sampling unit is divided into two geographically distinct segments, each containing, as far as possible, equal populations. The segments comprise aggregations of complete postcode sectors. Within each half (known as the A and B halves) postcode sectors have been sorted by the percentage of the population in socio-economic groups II and I. One postcode sector from each primary sampling unit is selected for each Omnibus, alternating on successive selections between the A and B halves of the primary sampling unit again to reduce clustering effects. For each wave of interviewing each interviewer is supplied with two blocks of 70 addresses drawn from different parts of the sector. Addresses are contacted systematically with three doors being left after each successful interview.

To ensure a balanced sample of adults within effective contacted addresses a quota is set by sex (male, female housewife, female non-housewife); within female housewife, by presence of children and working status; and within men, by working status.

As with all multi-stage sample designs, there are effects on the magnitude of the standard error of estimates that arise from a number of sources. The greatest contributors are caused negatively by the effects of clustering and weighting and positively by the effects of stratification. These are collectively known as 'design effects'. The 'design factor' is used to estimate the ratio of the standard error of these complex sample estimates to that of a simple random sample of the same size. Design factors vary from one variable to another depending on the inter-correlations that exist between that variable and the causes of variation in the size of the standard error. For example social grade tends to be correlated between households in small geographical areas and thus variables that are correlated with social grade (e.g. visits to woodland) will have larger design factors. Such design factors need to be individually calculated from actual data to obtain accurate estimates for any given variable. Common practice is the use of a 'modal' value for application to estimates. For the Omnibus Taylor Nelson Sofres recommend a design factor of 1.5 be applied to the calculation of confidence limits and when testing for significance.

Appendix 3: UK Questionnaire¹

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| <p>Q1.</p> | <p>You may have seen or read about UK forests, woods or trees on the television, radio or in the newspapers. From this list, can you please tell me which of these topics you have seen or read anything about in the last 12 months?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Multi choice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birds and other animals in woodlands • Flowers and other plants in woodlands • Forests and woodlands as places to visit • Community woodlands / new local woodlands • Tree planting • Tree pests and diseases • Wood for fuel / (short rotation coppice) • Loss of ancient or native woodland • Restoration of ancient or native woodland • Creation of new native woodlands • Selling public woodlands • Public rights of access to woodlands • Protests about roads or other developments on woodlands • Labelling/certification of wood products • Timber transport • None of these |
| <p>Q2.</p> | <p>Which of these promotions have you heard of?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Wood for Good' or other promotions for timber uses and products • Autumn Colours (<i>GB only</i>) • Heritage Trees (<i>GB only</i>) • National Tree Week • Walk in the Woods (<i>GB only</i>) • None |
| <p>Q3.</p> | <p>In the UK, public money is given to support forestry, the planting and management of all types and sizes of forests and woods, because it is believed to be of public benefit. From this list, please tell me which of the following reasons are good reasons to support forestry in this way?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Multi choice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the economy in rural areas • To help rural tourism • To provide timber for sawmills and wood processing • To provide wood as a renewable fuel • So that the UK can buy less wood products from abroad • To make woods more accessible to all in the community • To help prevent the "greenhouse effect" and global warming • To provide places for wildlife to live • To provide places to visit and walk in • To provide places to cycle or ride horses • To improve the countryside landscape • To create pleasant settings for developments around towns • To restore former industrial land • None |

¹ Questionnaire wording differed slightly between GB and Northern Ireland. These differences are detailed in individual questions

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| <p>Q4.</p> | <p>On a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is very good and 5 is very poor, how good do you think UK forestry is at ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing opportunities for walking • Protecting the environment • Providing the UK's timber, board and paper needs • Providing homes for birds and other animals • Supporting the economy in rural areas <p>..and on the same scale, how would you rate the overall performance of UK forestry?</p> |
| <p>Q5.</p> | <p>In the last 20 years, do you think the amount of woodland in the UK has been increasing or decreasing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing • Decreasing • Staying about the same |
| <p>Q6.</p> | <p>a. Have you ever been consulted about plans for creating, managing or using woodlands in your area? YES NO</p> <p>b. Would you like to be consulted (again) about plans for creating, managing or using woodlands in your area? YES NO</p> |
| <p>Q7.</p> | <p>a. Would you like to have more or less woodland in this part of the country?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More • Neither more nor less <i>(skip to Q8)</i> • Less <i>(skip to Q8)</i> <p>b. How much more woodland: a little more, half as much again or more than that?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A little more • About half as much again • More than that |
| <p>Q8.</p> | <p>a. Have you been shopping for wood products at all in the last few years? YES NO <i>(skip to Q9)</i></p> <p>b. Have you ever seen either of these logos on wood products such as furniture? [show symbols]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSC YES/NO • PEFC YES/NO • None |

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| <p>Q9.</p> | <p>Which of these have you heard of?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Multi choice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countryside Agency (GB only) • English Nature (GB only) • Forestry Commission (GB only) - <i>if not, then skip to Q12 in GB</i> • Forest Enterprise (GB only) • Forest Research (GB only) • Forest Service – <i>if not then skip to Q12 in NI</i> • National Trust • Woodland Trust • National Forest (GB only) • Community Forests (GB only) • Tree Wardens • Environment Agency (GB only) • None |
| <p>Q10.</p> | <p>Thinking about the Forestry Commission (GB)/ Forest Service (NI),</p> <p>do you think that it is ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A government department or agency • An independent body • A body representing private woodland owners • A private company <p>.. and which part or parts of the United Kingdom do you think that it works in?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Multi choice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • England • Scotland • Wales • Northern Ireland |
| <p>Q11.</p> | <p>I am now going to read out a number of forestry activities and for each one I would like you to say whether you think it is something done by the Forestry Commission (GB)/ Forest Service (NI).</p> <p>So do you think the Forestry Commission (GB)/ Forest Service (NI) ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lets the public walk in its woods and forests • Provides trails for cycling and horse-riding • Improves woodland habitats for wildlife • Runs cabins and campsites for forest holidays (GB only) • Runs campsites and caravan parks (NI only) • Sells Christmas trees • Gives grants for to private woodland owners • Carries out scientific studies <p>On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very good and 5 is very poor, how would you rate the Forestry Commission's (GB)/ Forest Service's (NI) overall performance in..</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing and protecting Forestry Commission (GB)/ Forest Service (NI) woodlands • Encouraging other landowners to protect and expand the UK's woodlands |

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| <p>Q12.</p> | <p>Are there any forests or woodlands which you can get to easily, without using a car or other transport? YES NO</p> |
| <p>Q13.</p> | <p>a. In the last few years, have you visited forests or woodlands for walks, picnics or other recreation? YES, - <i>then skip to Q13c</i> NO</p> <p>b. What is the main reason why you have not visited forests or woodlands for walks, picnics or other recreation? (then skip to Q17)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not interested in going (<i>If this response, skip to Q19 instead of Q17</i>) • Don't have a car • Other personal mobility reasons (difficulty in walking, unwell, etc.) • Woods are too far away • Lack of facilities (play areas, picnic areas, etc.) • Lack of information about woods to visit • Prefer other areas of countryside • Concerns that woods are not safe • Other (specify) <p>c. Did you visit woodlands in the countryside or woodlands in and around towns or both?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands in the countryside • Woodlands in and around towns • Both |
| <p>Q14.</p> | <p>How frequently did you visit forests and woodlands last summer, i.e. between April and September 2002?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several times per week • Several times per month • About once a month • Less often • Never |
| <p>Q15.</p> | <p>And how often this winter, i.e. since October 2002?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several times per week • Several times per month • About once a month • Less often • Never |

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| <p>Q16.</p> | <p>Which of these types of woodland owners do you think owns any of the forests or woodlands you have visited in the last few years?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Multi choice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local authorities • National Trust/ National Trust for Scotland • Woodland Trust • Other voluntary bodies • Forestry Commission/Forest Enterprise (GB only) • Forest Service (NI only) • Environment and Heritage Service (NI only) • Private owners • None |
| <p>Q17.</p> | <p>If you were thinking about visiting forests or woodlands that you had not visited before, which of the following sources of information would you normally use?</p> <p>(Multi choice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask friends/relatives • Guide book or map • Forestry Commission (GB)/ Forest Service (NI) • Tourist Information Centre • Internet • Library or sports centre • Other (specify) • No interest in visiting - <i>Skip to Q19</i> |
| <p>Q18.</p> | <p>In choosing to visit a woodland, which of these are important to you?</p> <p>(Multi choice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is in close/ easy reach • Knowing that visitors are welcome there • Attractive scenery • Wildlife • Peace and quiet • A good place to unwind / destress • Good for exercise • Safe environment • No entrance charge • None |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| <p>Q19.</p> | <p>If you were going to a woodland for a day out, which of these facilities would you like to see there?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Multi choice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposted walks suitable for all abilities • Long walks (min. 2 miles) • Car park • Information about the woodland • Minimum facilities to ensure peace and quiet • Nature trails • Cycle trails • Picnic areas • Children's play area • Toilets • Cafe or restaurant or kiosk • Shop with gifts and souvenirs • Accessible local staff • None |
| <p>Q20.</p> | <p>Do you own or have the use of a car at all? YES NO</p> |
| <p>Q21.</p> | <p>Do you have any long term illness, health problems or disability which limits your daily activities or the work you can do? YES NO</p> |
| <p>Q22.</p> | <p>And which of these best describes your ethnic origin? (GB only)</p> <p>White West Indian or Guyanese Indian Pakistani Bangladeshi Chinese African Arab Other (please specify)</p> |